

# International Workers Organizer

International Trotskyist Leninist Fraction  
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## Fourth issue of The Truth of the Oppressed in now released!

The paper of the Syrian and Middle East socialists

**Syria:** The Geneva conference resolved, as it has done during the last 6 years, that Al-Assad remains to finish crushing the Syrian revolution

**Yemen:** The masses don't give up!  
The revolution must succeed!



Break the pact between PKK and the Kurdish bourgeoisie with Bashar and USA!

**THE KURDISH PEOPLE SHOULD TURN  
THE GUNS AROUND AND SHOOT  
AGAINST AL ASSAD AND USA!**

**OUT WITH THE BARRACKS OF BASHAR  
AND THE US BASES FROM NORTHERN SYRIA!**



see statement on page 19

**Syria**



see section on page 24

## Southern Africa

**The working class  
starts to stand up!**

## Confronting the counterrevolutionary massacres and the starvation plan of imperialism and its lackey governments

# The workers and the poor from Maghreb and Middle East return to the fight

**PALESTINE**



An intifada started against Trump's attack of declaring Jerusalem the Zionist capital city

**IRAN**



Revolutionary assaults of the exploited

**TUNISIA**



The working class and the youth rise

**For the destruction of the Zionist-fascist state of Israel!**

**One single intifada, one single revolution, one single enemy!**

# Presentation

In this issue of the "International Worker Organizer" we reproduce in Spanish the main articles published in the Arabic newspaper "The Truth of the Oppressed" No. 4, recently edited by the socialist revolutionaries of Syria and the Middle East.

In these pages we include **the editorial of the paper "The Truth of the Oppressed", which gives an account of the recent meeting of the Geneva Conference**, that true counterrevolutionary staff where imperialism centralizes all its agents to crush the Syrian revolution and all the region. For 6 years, this conference has been ensuring that the fascist Al Assad continues in power so that together with the hitman Putin, under the command of Trump today, he will finish massacring the masses.

In this last conference in Geneva, it was revealed that the US has taken control of all the oil wealth of Syria, of Raqa and Deir ez Zor, with their marines occupying that area of the country along with minion troops.

Thus, the partition of Syria is finished, which has already become a Yankee protectorate, with the US staying with all business, while nothing of what happens in Syria is decided in Damascus, but in Geneva.

But in spite of so much massacre and martyrdom, the Syrian masses continue resisting in the last trenches of the revolution, as the reader will see in **the reports of different correspondents of the paper "The Truth of the Oppressed" written from the bloodied Syria, from Idlib and the sieged Ghouta**, which we reproduce here.

In this issue of the OOI we also give an account of the actions that have been carried out internationally on January 7 in the second **Day of Rage for Syria**, driven from the US by the Anti-War Committees in Solidarity with the Struggles for Self-Determination.

The Syrian socialists of "The Truth of the Oppressed" are part and engine of this fight at the international level, together with dozens of Committees to support the Syrian masses of various countries, against the massacre of Al-Assad and Putin.

Also, in this edition we reproduce a statement about **Yemen**, where at the end of 2017 the masses defeated the attempted coup of former President Saleh, who acted as a true



Argentina: revolutionary day on December 18

"Trojan horse" of Saudi Arabia, Zionism and the USA, while Today, the exploited prevent the advance of the counterrevolutionary invasion of the Saudi clan, agent of British Petroleum, organized with 9 Gurkha armies that massacre the Yemeni people.

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While this was developing, the Yankee pirates, under the command of Trump, attacked the Palestinian nation declaring Jerusalem as the capital of the Zionist-fascist state of Israel. The response of the masses was immediate: **the Palestine intifada has begun**, as we explain in the declaration of "The Truth of the Oppressed" that we reproduce in this new issue of the OOI.

When this newspaper of the Syrian Socialists was published, new events were again convulsing the entire Maghreb and the Middle East. As we stated in the statement on **Iran** that the reader will find in these pages, the working class and the exploited of that country are leading a new revolutionary uprising fighting against the theocratic regime of the ayatollahs before the brutal increase in the price of gasoline and food.

The enormous scarcity of life, unemployment and hunger are not only the driving force of the uprising of the Iranian masses... Now the working class and the exploited masses of **Tunisia**, which in 2011 were the spark that ignited the revolution in the whole region, as we note in this edition of the OOI.

In this way, the workers and the poor people of the

Maghreb and the Middle East return to combat, after having suffered countless betrayals in all these years. When the revolutionary fire burned in the region, all the treacherous leaderships paid by the capital were dedicated to affirming that we were before "Arab springs". They led the masses to lay down their demands for bread, decent work and freedom - which pushed them to attack bourgeois power and proposed the expropriation of the capitalists - subjecting them to the "democratic traps" mounted by imperialism and the bourgeoisie to prevent the working class and the exploited advance towards the seizure of power.

The farces of elections and rigged and fraudulent constituent assemblies were a detour to impose the worst hell for the exploited: ferocious military dictatorships as in Egypt, the return of the counterrevolutionary regimes lackeys of imperialism as in Tunisia, the ferocious massacre and genocide against the Syrian masses and military invasions as in Yemen.

But today the masses return for what is theirs. They return to the path of the revolution that expropriated them and revolt again for bread and decent work. As in 2011, the workers and the peoples of the region do not accept to continue living in conditions of hunger and misery while they have under their feet the enormous riches of "black gold" that are plundered at large by the oil companies and the imperialist powers.

These uprisings of the masses of the region in turn expose the perfidious infamies and lies that have been mounted during the last decade to deceive the exploited of the world, as is the case of Iran. For years, Castroism, the "Bolivarian" bourgeoisies led by Chávez and the waste of Stalinism and Social Democracy, from the World Social Forum (WSF), and supported by the left by the renegades of Trotskyism, passed off the ayatollahs' native bourgeoisie as "anti-imperialists" and "allies of the oppressed peoples", when we are before millionaire clerics, agents of imperialism, especially of the European powers, who dedicated themselves to starve the Iranian masses while they were used by the US as ground troops to sustain Al Assad and crush the Syrian revolution.

The WSF did the same, giving its support to the "April 6 Movement" of Egypt, which together with the bourgeoisie that posed as "democratic", handed power to the military junta of Al Sisi.

Part of this policy was the one that was carried out together with the great hosts of the WSF meetings that took place in Tunisia in 2013 and 2015: the UGTT bureaucracy, which supported the government that put the bourgeoisie on its feet after the fall revolutionary of Ben Ali.

That is, the class collaboration policy promoted by the WSF was the one that ensured that the sabers of the generals could be imposed and counter-revolutionary regimes in the



Germany: the workers of IG Metall go on strike

region could return.

The central point of this WSF policy was also to pass off as "anti-imperialist" the biggest agent of the imperialist oil companies and slave trader on behalf of the transnationals, which was Khadafy in Libya. Today, after defeating the revolution, **the Khadafist bourgeoisie, along with the European imperialist powers, continues that business of slave trade** and against them thousands of black workers made huge demonstrations in Europe and the US, as we note in the article we published here.

Also in Syria, the WSF supported the fascist Al-Assad. All of them affirmed that the "enemy was ISIS" while slandering the revolutionary masses, affirming that they were "NATO ground troops", in order to siege the revolution, isolate it from the world proletariat and allow the counterrevolutionary massacre of the dog Bashar and the hitman Putin, commanded by the Yankees.

They are the same ones who support the Zionist-Fascist state of Israel by supporting the "two states" scam against the Palestinian masses.

In Latin America, the dignitary of the WSF, those swindlers of the "Bolivarian revolution" are the ones who imposed the capitalist restoration in Cuba - where the Yankee flag is already fluttering - handed over to the Colombian resistance and as true agents of imperialism that are, they are dedicated to applying the plans of the parasites of Wall Street, starving the people, as Maduro does in Venezuela, while they filled their pockets at the expense of the misery of the poor people.

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In different editions and special declarations of the FLTI, we are and we will be explaining this which we are advancing about Latin America here. There, the governments and regimes lackeys of the region also guarantee the offensive of Trump that goes all out in his "backyard". But here and



there, in the form of resistance or offensive fighting, the working class and the exploited in Latin America also respond to the attack.

The clearest example of this is the enormous revolutionary days of December 18 and 19 that made Argentina tremble and left Macri's government beaten. The exploiters did not expect such a response from the working class and the exploited masses of that country. It also surprised the leaders of the reformist left like those of the FIT. From their parliamentary seats, they argued that the way to defeat the government's law and the imperialism of attacking pensions was with a "popular consultation" carried out through a plebiscite. They wanted to take the masses to vote at a time when workers won the streets, imposed a general strike on the traitors of the union bureaucracy, picketed and build barricades facing the murderous police and staged pot-banging in the wee hours of the morning.

Today the government is attacking and persecuting the fighters and currents of the left. Unfortunately, before this, the leadership of the PO, for example, demonstrates an open confidence in the institutions of the regime, putting at the disposal of the employer justice to two of its militants, who when presented, were imprisoned, as expected to happen because they had an arrest warrant for participating on 12/18.

Now all this left servant of the judges and the bourgeois state has its forces concentrated on hiding to the masses the true character of the combat that they waged with the objective that these do not draw the conclusion that they have managed to weaken the agent government of imperialism and that the most immediate task is to prepare a new revolutionary day like the one of 12/18 but organized for this time to bring down the government as it was done in December 2001.

Meanwhile, in Venezuela the masses take to the streets against the Maduro government. They can't stand hunger anymore. The exploited go to find the bread where it is and expropriate goods from supermarkets, trucks, etc. From Tehran to Caracas, the same accurate shout that sounds in the battles of the exploited in Iran that collide with the hated regime of the ayatollahs must be heard: the people live as beggars and the clerics and the "boli-bourgeois" as kings!

Along with this, fighting continues in Peru, Honduras and Mexico, and workers in Bolivia face the Morales government. Meanwhile, the working class in Brazil still maintains its fighting energies intact despite the betrayals of the trade union bureaucracy and the exploited in Chile, beyond the stab wounds they received from their leaders, they were not defeated at all.

While in Latin America the decisive combats between the classes are still to come, in the South of the African continent the working class of **South Africa** has broken through with the general strike last year and in **Zimbabwe** a military coup has developed that has been a pre-emptive coup to avoid a new wave of uprising of the masses. From these

events in South Africa we also report on these pages of the OOI.

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Until now, a reactionary world period was developing. Imperialism had been launching a brutal counter-offensive that concentrated on crushing the most advanced centers of world revolution such as Syria and Ukraine and making to the masses of the world pay the entire crisis. Once this was achieved, the imperialist gangs felt confident and strong. They felt that they could generalize to the entire planet the relation of forces they conquered by crushing the revolution. For this reason, they attacked again with hard blows, but they have met with fierce resistance from the masses and sectors of the proletariat that are already openly responding.

In the first place, in the Maghreb and the Middle East, where the most confident imperialism felt after imposing the massacre in Syria, today a huge mass response is taking place, as in Palestine, Iran and Tunisia. In Latin America, as we said, the revolutionary days that took place in Argentina in the month of December are part of this.

Even within the imperialist beast, the Trump government, seeking to expand its social base, used fascist bands of the Ku Klux Klan and white supremacists against immigrants and the labor movement. But these were bravely faced by huge vanguard sectors of the workers and exploited in the US.

Part of this is that at the heart of imperialist Europe there are fierce battles with the French working class fighting against labor flexibilization and the metallurgical proletariat in Germany has returned to the struggle, after the enormous struggle that the German workers and youth carried out that made the G-20 pirates in Hamburg a real hell last month.

The tragedy is that these battles of the proletariat in Europe take place when the revolution in Ukraine has been crushed and the fire of the barricades of the masses of Greece, Portugal, the Spanish State, etc. has been extinguished. Precisely, that is the role of treacherous leaders, who are dedicated to desynchronizing the struggles of the world working class.

But in spite of this, all these events show that we are entering a new moment of the world situation marked by an enormous polarization between the classes worldwide, which already preannounces enormous turns and abrupt changes in the international situation.

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As we have been insisting, the most delayed and the enormous limit that the working class has to make their current and future combats succeed, is the treacherous leadership that has to its front.

The WSF played its full role to allow the imperialist counter-offensive against the mass revolutionary battles that broke out in 2008-2011. They, stating that "the enemy is



Tunisia: barricades on the streets

ISIS," infused Islamophobia into the world working class. Thus, they supported the establishment of the "anti-terrorist front" headed by the US and all the imperialist powers that in the name of the "fight against terrorism" not only carried out the worst massacres in the Maghreb and the Middle East, but also put the Syrian refugees who came to Europe in concentration camps, attacked immigrant workers within the imperialist countries and thus could redouble their offensive against their own proletariat, snatching their conquests as they did with the 35-hour workweek to French workers .

Today, a new counterrevolutionary leadership of the world proletariat, the self-proclaimed New Left led by Syriza in Greece and Podemos in the Spanish State, has substituted the old WSF. Its central program is the one proclaimed by Fidel Castro: that "socialism does not work anymore, not even in Cuba". So they are dedicated to proclaim that the struggle is for a "real democracy" or "more generous", with

the aim of sustaining this rotten capitalist system, taking away from the masses the horizon of the revolution, when this is the most immediate task and urgent in the face of imperialist barbarism. An example of this is, as we mentioned, what happens in the Rio de la Plata with the cockatoos of the New Left calling for a "popular consultation" via a plebiscite and seeking to prevent the masses from becoming aware of what they have already conquered with their combat and advance in defeating the government of Macri.

But due to the offensive of imperialism and the blows that the masses are beginning to give, the margins of reformism shrink every day. The great combat in Argentina is again proof of what we are saying here: nobody called the working class

and the exploited masses to carry out the enormous revolutionary days of December 18 and 19. These were made by the workers overflowing all the containment dikes of the union bureaucracy and reformism, as in Iran and Tunisia.

Today the immediate task is to prevent the ongoing or impending battles from being brought back to the dead end of the class collaboration policy advocated by the New Left. That is why the Trotskyists of the FLTI have all our efforts put in the struggle to regroup the internationalist forces of the world working class, which with their actions and their battles break with reformism and seek a revolutionary path. This is the way to deliver accurate defeats to the New Left, agent of capital. And this is the fight today to recover the Fourth International from the hands of the destroyers of Trotskyism who have handed it over to imperialism, entering the New Left together with Stalinism, in order to be able to re-found it under its foundation program of 1938.


The reader could find the articles in our website:

**[www.flti-ci.org](http://www.flti-ci.org)**

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*After the mass uprising and the huge strikes of 2009, which opened the road to the revolutionary processes of the masses of Maghreb and Middle East against imperialism, for bread and freedom*

*Against the excessive increase prices of basic foods and gasoline*

## **New revolutionary uprising against the billionaire ayatollahs**

*The masses hit hard against the Iranian autocratic regime, used by imperialism as ground troops to crush the Syrian revolution and support the fascist Al Assad...*

*The allies of the Syrian, Palestinian, Yemeni masses and those of the entire region stand up*

## **The masses return for their revolution**

*The one that defeated the Sha Reza Pahlevi and imperialism in the '80s*

*This time, against the Ayatollahs who diverted the revolution and drowned it in a blood bath to become new billionaires and sheikhs of the Middle East, under the protective mantle of French and German imperialism*



A new revolutionary mass uprising shakes Iran. Since Thursday 28/12/2017, protests have been developing throughout the country. The masses took to the streets by thousands and thousands, centrally in Mashhad (the second largest city of Iran), in the capital Tehran and even in Qom, a city considered sacred to the Shiites and bastion of the Ayatollahs. As the masses advanced through the streets, they demolished and set on fire

every poster or figure of the ayatollahs. Banks and buildings of public administration have also been set on fire.

The first protests of this wave came after the announcement of Rouhani (the president) of a budget cut for 2018, especially the subsidy for gasoline and basic foods, with which its price would increase even more than what already it had been increased.

So, Iran today is shaken by the mass

actions doing by occupied workers, millions of unemployed workers and all the Iranian people with semi-local insurrections, clashes with the forces of repression, takeover of factories and revolutionary strikes.

The World Social Forum of Castro, Chávez, all the Bolivarians, the remnants of Stalinism and Social Democracy and the renegades of Trotskyism, considered for years that these starvers



and anti-workers Ayatollahs as “anti-imperialists” and friends of the workers and the oppressed peoples of the world.

Today this brutal deception is unmasked. The “Bolivarian revolution” was a scam. Cuba was sold out to imperialism by the Castro brothers. In Venezuela, Chavezism has put the exploited masses to have to search for something to eat in the trashcans. And in Iran, the uprisings we see today show that the ayatollahs are multimillionaire capitalists who pass the worst attacks of hunger and misery on the Iranian masses and that is why the war cry that is heard in the streets is “The people live like beggars and clerics as kings!” Bolivarians and Ayatollahs: two sides of the same coin.

These are the largest uprisings in Iran since 2009. In that year, the working class and the poor Iranian people had revolted against the Ayatollahs. A brutal crisis had broken out in 2008 and imperialism was trying to burden it on the masses of the world, but they responded, as they did in Iran, with a huge revolutionary uprising, which came together with the battles of the Iraqi resistance and the struggle of the American

working class against the war that forced US imperialism to withdraw its troops from Iraq. This opened the road for the revolutions that shook the Maghreb and the Middle East since 2011, since they had weakened the imperialist control of the region.

**But the Ayatollah regime crushed that 2009 uprising in a blood bath. That is why he had his hands free to send his troops to invade Syria to support Al Assad and massacre the masses when they revolted. It was a huge counterrevolutionary action for years against the masses of the Middle East, supported by the World Social Forum, which supported Al Assad and the Ayatollahs.**

Over the basis of the crushing of 2009, the cost of living is only increasing for the Iranian working class that’s why since 2013; a wave of fierce struggles began. In 2013, Rouhani became president proposing to carry out some reforms of cosmetic democratic openings in the regime to cushion the clashes of the exploited masses that he foresaw they would come (as indeed they came). He appeared before the masses as the “opponent”, which was

“different” from the Ayatollahs who had been attacking the workers hard in order to maintain the essence of the regime. So the working class saw an opportunity to fight for conquests by pressuring the new government and there were strikes, marches and other protests and struggles that were brutally repressed by the Ayatollahs regime, including imprisoning its leaders.

But in 2017, Iran was impacted by a new round of the world crisis; the crisis of the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa). Therefore, those of above seek to unload this crisis over the masses and it is the government in the voice of Rouhani, the alleged opponent who appeared as “the alternative” to the Ayatollahs, the one that announces one of the worst attacks to the Iranian working class.

Thus the masses saw that **there is no possibility of getting any of their demands if the budget reduction plan announced by Rouhani is not defeated, and for that it is necessary to overthrow the whole regime.** That is why they took to the streets with the slogans: “Death to Rouhani “,” Death to the dictatorship “,” Death to Hezbollah

*With US imperialism in the back room,*

## **A conspiracy is mounted behind the backs of the Iranian masses to divert and expropriate their struggle**

In the face of the present uprising of the Iranian masses. Yankee imperialism manages a variant that is to set a great deception and trap against the masses. That is why Trump has come out to denounce the ayatollahs for “suppressing the demonstrations” and has proposed that the UN intervene.

Part of this trap is the statements made by the Iranian opposition bourgeoisie that is in exile in Europe, which is organized in the National Council of the Resistance of Iran (NCRI). Its president, Maryam Rajavi, called for the UN to recognize the end of the theocratic regime and for a “secular democratic republic” to be established, with the NCRI as the government. They are the “democratic” bourgeois wing - which is also under the wing of imperialism - that seeks to expropriate, divert and abort the Iranian revolution that is beginning to open. That is, they are trying to do the same as in Libya in 2011 with the CNT or in Syria with the Syrian National Coalition

and the FSA.

On the other hand, as we have seen, there are also bourgeois fractions within the same Iranian theocratic regime that are willing to make some cosmetic reform to try to appease and divert the mass uprising. With this objective, they have convened sessions in a puppet parliament to discuss “the root of the problem” and “find a solution”, as part of the deception against the working class and the exploited.

But whoever the bourgeois factions that want to be shown as an alternative, all are to prevent the masses from advancing in the revolution, because they know that if this happens, the property of the whole of the capitalist gangs will be at stake in Iran. Neither wants nor is interested in conquering decent living conditions for the masses. They only seek to replace the ayatollahs as head of the Government and the state to be the ones who distribute the juicy business of Iran’s oil wealth.

“,” Death to the supreme leader Ayatollah Khamenei “.

The demand for the withdrawal of the troops of the Iranian guard from Syria and that the government stops sending resources abroad (such as financing Hezbollah) and distribute them to the Iranian masses are also raised. That is why the Palestinian and Syrian revolution flags are waving in the hands of the masses that rise up in Tehran.

**The masses already clash against all the institutions of the regime. The main engine of the fight is hunger.** In 2017, basic foods increased by 40%. Gasoline increased 50%, when Iran is one of the largest oil exporters (the second in OPEC) and the second in the world of natural gas. That is to say the Iranian masses have enormous wealth under their feet, but none of these are for them. The Ayatollah Khamenei has a heritage of 95 billion dollars, while there are people who have to sell blood or even their kidneys to eat. Poverty is at unprecedented levels. Unemployment is not tolerated anymore, especially among youth (which is more than half the population), which is 40%, and in rural areas up to 60%. And if they get a job, the salary is very low, where the



The Iranian exploited clash with the police

minimum wage (what the majority of the people earn) is estimated at approximately US\$ 200 per month.

**This is the same situation that pushed the workers and exploited of Libya, Egypt, Tunisia, Syria, etc. in 2011 to the revolutionary fight against the rise of food prices promoted by the Qadafys, Al Assads, Mubarak, and Ben Ali throughout the region.**

With the blockade imposed by USA for years against the Iranian nation, the people were starving and only the theocracy and the capitalists were enriched.

In 2015, Obama signed an agreement whereby, although the embargo was not lifted completely, it did allow the Ayatollahs to have more access to international business without so many obstacles. Iran went back to massively exporting oil as it did historically and the theocracy was able to manage its accounts abroad freely. While the misery increased for the Iranian masses, the clerics filled their pockets, associated with the international imperialist financial capital and not only the North American, but also the French and the German.

The latter never complied with the

## **The infamy of the World Social Forum presenting the Iranian ayatollahs as allies of the exploited masses of the world is unmasked**

The entire world reformist left supported the Iranian Ayatollahs. They did it from the World Social Forum, of which Chavez, the Bolivarians and their friends, the Ayatollahs were part. They all said that these bourgeois were anti-imperialists, that they were progressive ... Some even called them socialists, as did Alan Woods (leader of the International Marxist Tendency) who gave Chavez the Transitional Program. Without exception, for years, the reformist left posed to the international proletariat that the rulers of that brutal and anti-worker regime in Iran were their allies.

This regime was always its enemy from the beginning. The current regime of Iran arose from the crushing of the revolution that opened in 1979 and developed during the '80s. From exile in Paris, Khomeini arrived in Tehran, sent by French imperialism, posing as an opponent to divert the enormous revolution that the masses were leading. They had already thrown out the Shah when Khomeini arrived and the Ayatollahs usurped this triumph of the masses. In this deception, Khomeini and the ayatollahs had the support of the Stalinist CP, who supported them.

Once in Iran, the Ayatollahs set up “Mujahideen” Guards, the Guardian Corps of the Islamic Revolution, true praetorian guards who were the fifth column of that great Iranian revolution. They were in charge of persecuting and assassinating the workers and soldiers who had set up their direct democracy organizations: the Shoras, and even did not hesitate to massacre the CP militants.

Now, some Stalinist currents of the world are already coming out to defend the Ayatollahs again, saying that the uprising is not of the masses, but provoked by the US. This is an unsustainable lie, just like the slanders that were responsible for spreading in 2011/2012 around the world against the revolutions for bread and freedom throughout the Maghreb and the Middle East.

Today the uprisings of the Iranian masses unmask this lie and brutal deception, with the cry “people are like a beggar and clerics like kings”. They reveal that the Ayatollahs are, as always were the most anti-worker, starving, repressive and murderous of the masses, servants and partners of imperialism in the business and looting of Iran.



embargo imposed by the Yankees. They were the ones who made the investments for business in Iran, such as the French imperialist oil company Total or the refinery business in Germany. It is that Iran does not have the capacity to refine all the oil that it produces due to the scarce and obsolete refineries, and therefore it must import gasoline from Germany.

This is how they have been perpetrating a brutal plundering of Iran ... between France and Germany, at the same time that they were suffocating by the embargo. Today Trump intends to keep the business of the investment of an industrial park and obsolete infrastructure destroyed after the asphyxia by the embargo.

### **2017: The masses broke into huge revolutionary days when a political crisis of the Iranian regime opens up**

In Iran there is a theocratic regime, totally Bonapartist, in which Islamic law prevails. Strikes or protests are not legal, even if any official or cleric is questioned or criticized. They are considered crimes classified as “seditious”, which carry life sentences and even death sentences.

It is a regime that came to power after diverting and drowning in a blood bath the huge revolution of the ‘80s, with more than 30,000 executed and starring with Saddam Hussein an 8-year Iraq-Iran fratricidal war that left 1 million dead. It is based on the clerics and

their officers, which are so-called “Guardian Corps of the Islamic Revolution” (or “the Guard”), which commands the army and all Special Forces. This Guard was the one that crushed by fire and sword the Shoras, the councils of workers and soldiers that the masses had set up in the ‘80s revolution.

The maximum authority of the Iranian regime is the “supreme leader”, which today is the Ayatollah Khamenei, who is the commander-in-chief of the Guards and of all the Armed Forces. It also has an “Assembly of Experts” composed of career ayatollahs and high religious rank.

Every four years there are elections for president, who is in charge of the daily administration of the government but their decisions must be approved by the “supreme leader”. Only those who are approved by the ayatollahs can stand as candidates for president.

Iran is a true autocracy, a kingdom or emirate that has nothing to envy the Saudi regime. A caste of capitalist clerics controls the state apparatus that is from where hydrocarbons are handled, which incomes represents approximately 80% of the Iranian GDP.

**In front of the economic crisis and the drowning of Iran, there began to be disputes among the Ayatollahs within the regime, about how to throw it to the masses. On the one hand, Rouhani made proposals for cosmetic democratic reforms. On the other hand, Khamenei insists on keeping the iron fist and strict fist of the Ayatollahs and their Guard.**

**A gap was opened between the two different wings of the Iranian bourgeoisie within the same Ayatollahs regime. Rouhani is the wing that seeks a bigger opening, since it is the most linked to imperialist investments. When the crisis hit, Rouhani’s wing tried to blame Khamenei’s and published the state budget before the masses, what had never been done before. There the masses could see the billions of dollars stolen by the Ayatollahs, with enormous wealth for their mosques and religious institutions, with salaries of public officials of more than 30,000 dollars, with millions to keep the invasion of Syria and for finance Hezbollah.**

We are witnessing a political crisis of the regime, a division in the heights, where phenomenal **independent masses actions** burst into, against the unheard of suffering to which they are subjected every day. Nobody called them. The masses are directly clashing with the theocratic regime. **That is why in Iran, great revolutionary days are being developed.**

**We are in a true objective revolutionary situation, which according to Lenin, is characterized by:** (1) *When it is impossible for the ruling classes to maintain their rule without any change; when there is a crisis, in one form or another, among the “upper classes”, a crisis in the policy of the ruling class, leading to a fissure through which the discontent and indignation of the oppressed classes burst forth. For a revolution to take place, it is usually insufficient for “the lower classes not to want” to live in the old way; it is also necessary that “the upper classes should be unable” to live in the old way;* (2) *when the suffering and want of the oppressed classes have grown more acute than usual;* (3) *when, as a consequence of the above causes, there is a considerable increase in the activity of the masses, who uncomplainingly allow themselves to be robbed in “peace time”, but, in turbulent times, are drawn both by all the circumstances of the crisis and by the “upper classes” themselves into independent historical action.*(Lenin, *The Collapse of the Second International*, 1915)



Protests in January 2018: “10% wage, 100% inflation”

**The response of the Iranian government: he promises reforms with a “good-natured face”, while he sends the police to repress harshly to defend the group of Iranian capitalists**

*The Ayatollahs regime only uses its “Islamic Guard” when the police are overwhelmed. He preserves it to prevent the army’s split, as it happened in the revolution of the 1980s and in revolutionary Syria in 2011*

The supreme Ayatollah, Ali Khamenei, denounced these mobilizations of the masses as being “armed by the US” and quickly ordered the police to repress. He also sent the Basij, an elite corps dedicated exclusively to the repression of marches and strikes. The clashes were hard. There were hundreds of injured and about 1,000 detainees. Officially, more than 20 people dead were reported.

The government had at one time warned that he would not allow more not authorized protests. However immediately after, Rouhani call for “calm” and making “peaceful” protests. It shoes a “good nature face” and promises to “discuss a solution”, while the police continued repressing harshly.

The Iranian bourgeoisie did not deploy the army or its praetorian guard (the Guardian Corps of the Islamic Revolution). He reserved it only for cases where the police are overwhelmed. He learnt very well from the revolution of the ‘80s, where the Shah ordered the army to repress the masses and they ended up breaking it. He also learned about what happened to Bashar Al Assad in Syria in 2011-2012: where his army collided with mass mobilizations, soldiers of the bases deserted and joined the exploited ranks. That is why the Ayatollahs today keep the army and the Guards in barracks. High commanders of this military corps declared that “they are not in charge of keeping the peace inside Iran”, but it is the task of the police and the special forces; the Basij.

Thus the regime seeks to remove the masses from the streets, whipping the stick of the police and its Islamic law,



from which they accuse any demonstrator of “seditious” and threaten with sentences of life imprisonment and death penalty. At the same time, it tries to cheat the masses with promises of reforms.

But the masses are far from leaving the streets. They know that nothing will come from this counterrevolutionary regime.

**The Iranian exploited masses fight against the Ayatollahs, counterrevolutionary agents of imperialism in the Middle East, centralized since the Geneva conference. Their allies, the Syrian, Palestinian, Yemeni masses and the entire region stand up**

In Iran, we are facing real independent actions of the masses, which continue to develop every day that passes. **This is great news for the Syrian, Palestinian and all the Maghreb and Middle East masses. Their allies stand up inside Iran, beating the murderous regime of the Ayatollahs and their praetorian guard, used by imperialism as ground troops to crush the Syrian revolution.** The participation of Iran to support Al Assad in Syria was key to imperialism. It was also in Iraq, to support the government of the Yankee protectorate, controlling the Shia masses of the south and attacking with their bands of mercenaries (called “Shiite militias”) the uprising of the masses of the Sunni triangle. Iran said to support them when

the Shia masses rose up in Bahrain and Yemen (in the latter joining with the Sunni exploited), but looked the other way while Saudi Arabia invaded and massacred them. The ayatollahs also support Hezbollah and Al Assad, who are guardians of the borders of the Zionist state. That is why Obama took them out of the “axis of evil” and in 2015 they signed that pact of partial lifting of the embargo.

**The Ayatollahs were one of the counterrevolutionary agents that the US used to defeat the chain of revolutions that opened in Maghreb and the Middle East in 2011.** They had taken over all the counterrevolutionary devices of domination that imperialism had. He could neither intervene directly with his troops, after having to withdraw from Iraq, nor could he use his Zionist gendarme, since if he attacked, all the masses of the region would unite in the same revolutionary combat against the State of Israel.

That is why US imperialism used all the available agents and centralized them at the Geneva conference, a true counterrevolutionary General Staff. From there, it coordinates the massacre in Syria and the selling out of rebellious cities by the ESL under the command of Turkey. Also the invasion of Saudi Arabia to Yemen, the counterrevolutionary control of the Al Sisi dictatorship in Egypt, the partition of Libya, and the attack on the Palestinian masses declaring Jerusalem the capital of the Zionist state. The Iranian Ayatollahs are also part of this counterrevolutionary pact.



The Iranian masses make their way to recover their revolution of the '80s

## **Down with the dictatorship and the entire theocratic regime of the Ayatollahs!**

**OPEN THE ROAD TO THE SHORAS, THE  
WORKERS AND SOLDIERS COUNCILS!**

**T**he masses fight in the streets for bread, against the high cost of life and misery. To conquer their demands, the government and regime of Iran must be overthrown. This is something that the masses are very aware of. They know that no pressure struggle can give their demands and that they cannot have any decent life within this rotten regime. That is why they have raised the slogan of *"Death to Rouhani and Khamenei!"*

It is necessary to tear down all the institutions of the theocratic regime: Down with the power of the Ayatollahs, the Experts Assembly, their Supreme Leader, their counterrevolutionary Guard! Down with the anti-worker government of Rouhani!

Hunger, unemployment, misery, unheard-of suffering cannot be tolerated anymore. It is time for the riches of "black gold" stop being for clerics and imperialism and be for workers and exploited to live decently.

**Out with the imperialism that sieges and plunders Iran and the entire Middle East! We must expropriate without payment and under workers' control the capitalists, the bankers, imperialism and the parasitic clerics and thieves of the poor people! We must impose workers control of all state oil companies and expropriate without payment the imperialists who plunder the Iranian crude!**

Salary increase already above inflation! Distribution of work hours so that all available hands can produce!

So, the road to follow is the one that the masses drew up in the 1979 revolution when they defeated the Shah Reza Pahlavi, which today the Iranians masses retake. They struggle to recover what is theirs: their revolution, this time against those who diverted it and then drowned it in blood bath: the Ayatollahs.

**We have to set up again the Shoras;** the Workers, Poor Peasants and Soldiers Council, as in the revolution of the 1980s! These, must be the self-determination and direct democracy organs of the masses in struggle, coordinated by localities, provinces and nationwide.

**We must fight for dissolving the murderous police!** This fight has already started in the streets.

**Dissolution of the Iranian counterrevolutionary guard!**

**Let's march to the barracks to look for the soldiers to set up ranks and files soldiers 'committees as in the '80s. We have to set up the workers' militia!** Who has the weapons wins the bread!

**Unconditional freedom now to the prisoners in these days of struggle and to all the political prisoners of Iran!**

**Only a provisional revolutionary government of workers and peasants, supported by the armed Shoras, can solve all the demands of the Iranian masses.**

**Only by defeating the regime of the ayatollahs and advancing**



Demonstration during the revolution in 1979

**ing in the second Iranian revolution can full rights be guaranteed even to the national self-determination of the Kurds, ah-wazis, baluchis, azaris and all the oppressed minorities.**

**Open the road to the second Iranian revolution!**

**For a socialist Iran without millionaire clerics or capitalists!**

**For a revolutionary Iran of the underdogs, to be a bulwark and support for the anti-imperialist struggle of the masses of the Middle East!**

From Tunisia to Cairo, from Tehran to Damascus, from Sanaa to Jerusalem... **The same revolutionary struggle against imperialism and its lackeys!**

**Out with the troops of the ayatollahs, Putin, Trump, Erdogan and all the counterrevolutionary forces that invade Syria! Out Al Assad!**

**Down with the dictatorship of Al Sisi! For the destruction of the Zionist-fascist state of Israel! Down with the Yankee protectorate in Iraq, supported by the Iranian theocracy and the coward Sunni bourgeoisie!**

**Out the 130,000 Yankee Marines from Afghanistan! Out with all the invading Middle Eastern troops!**

**Stand with the Yemeni revolution!**

**For the defeat of the Saudi clan and its coalition of imperialist gurras that invade Yemen!**

**Down with the conference of Geneva, a counter-revolutionary General Staff from which the crushing of Syrian, Yemeni revolutions is organized and it has already started a conspiracy against the Iranian masses!**

**The world working class, standing together with the Iranian masses and the entire Maghreb and the Middle East!**

Let's take to the streets around the world in support of the masses of Iran and the Syrian resistance! We must collect money in the trade unions and workers' organizations to bring effective solidarity with the masses of the Middle East!

We must go to all the Iranian embassies in all countries in support of the uprising of the exploited against the Ayatollahs!

The triumph of the Iranian masses will be a huge step towards the defeat of the attack carried out by imperialism to the world working class. From Latin America to Europe, from the USA to Russia, from Tehran to Damascus ... a single class, a single fight against the same enemy: imperialism and all its allies.



*After the meetings in Sochi and Riyadh last November...*

## **The Geneva Conference resolved, as it has done during the last 6 years, that al-Assad must remain to complete his task of crushing the Syrian revolution**

*Geneva is not a “peace conference”, but a true general staff where the dog Bashar, Russia, Iran, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, with the participation of the FSA –whose both Islamic and secular branches are in charge of surrendering the rebel cities from the inside- coordinate under the command of the USA.*

*The Geneva news of December 2017: After liberating the skies of Syria, and leaving the way open for Russia, Iran, Hezbollah to hold the fascist Assad to massacre the masses ...*

*Now, the USA, in Raqqa and Deir ez-Zor, has taken control of all Syrian oil riches*



Idlib: masses moving rubble looking for survivors after the bombings

**US imperialism invades again with both its own and proxy lackey troops;  
as yesterday in Iraq, today in Syria**

*With massive bombings and siege by hunger, the regime tries to advance on Idlib, Dera'a and areas of the provinces of Aleppo and Hama, as well as on rebellious Ghouta, and to ensure its control of all of Damascus and its surroundings,  
But a strong resistance of the masses has closed the way*



The Syrian resistance in Idlib is still alive

**The Syrian exploited resist  
in the last trenches and  
continue shouting “the  
people want the fall of the  
regime”**

**We must break the siege around the Syrian  
resistance before it is too late!**

**T**he eighth meeting of the Geneva conference has just ended. Again, as it has been happening since 2013, it had ended in a supposed row between Assad and the Free Syrian Army (FSA) pretending that “there was no agreement”. The government representatives had left long before the conference ended saying the opposition “is too attached to the idea that Assad has to leave.” A total fallacy and deceit, as we have seen in all the meetings in Geneva, since they have been arguing for years about whether Assad stays or not ... and meanwhile Assad continues to massacre the masses. It is a real smokescreen to cover up the genocide. **The Geneva conference does not bring more peace ... it is written with “M” of Murder.**

**It could not be otherwise, as the Geneva conference is a true general staff meeting among Russia, Iran, al-Assad, Turkey, the FSA, all under the command of the United States.** There they coordinate their actions against the Syrian masses. While al-Assad massacres together with Putin and Iran, the US liberates the skies so that they can operate freely and the FSA, under Turkish orders, sells out the rebellious cities one after the other, as it did in Homs, Daraya, Aleppo and today, as we will see later, it is doing again in Ghouta ...

This new media hoax of the last meeting was also resolved by this staff. The fact is, they still need more massacring to crush the last trenches of the revolution.

Part of the meetings of this counter-revolutionary general staff had been held just days before this last conference in Geneva. First, a meeting was held in Sochi (Russia) in November. There were the governments of Russia, Turkey and Iran, which are already acting on a counter-revolutionary front, and declared that they are close to achieving their goal of ending with “terrorism”, that is, to crush the Syrian revolution. They also declared that this same bloc of Iran, Russia and Turkey will work to ensure this goal. And they have not finished their work yet. That’s why they continued with the same cheating of every year: pretending to fight among them in Geneva, just for the ca-



Bombings on Ghouta

meras, to better continue the massacre on the ground.

Also part of this counterrevolutionary device in Geneva was the meeting of the Syrian Sunni bourgeoisie of the FSA in Riyadh, capital of Saudi Arabia. They declared that they want a solution to the Syrian conflict, and are willing to look for it at a negotiating table with al-Assad. They had even stated that they could approve al-Assad staying; but then huge demonstrations broke out inside Syria against this declaration, raising the flag of the revolution and shouting “the people want the fall of the regime.” Therefore, they returned to the same deception of each meeting in Geneva, so al-Assad can stay and continue massacring the masses. This shows that the Syrian masses have not yet surrendered. They adamantly refuse to accept that Bashar remains in power. They even go further and march for the fall of the whole regime. Although already almost disarmed, decimated by the bombs, besieged by hunger and lashed by a harsh winter, they continue to go out into the streets shouting the same slogans with which they rose in 2011. It would be criminal to defeat the revolution ... it would be like burying a patient who is still breathing.

It would be equally criminal to hold international meetings of militant syndicalism and silence the Syrian revolution. The fact is precisely that today, more than ever, the fate of the heroic Syrian masses is not defined in Syria, but in the whole world arena... in the struggle of the world proletariat.

**Al-Assad, the man that everyone supported and still support from Geneva to crush the revolution completely**

**In short, what this conference in Geneva was about was covering up under a blanket of “peace” that al-Assad will remain in Damascus to finish crushing what is still alive of the Syrian resistance: the last trenches of the revolution.** These are the areas of Ghouta and the outskirts of Damascus, the province and city of Idlib, and certain areas of the provinces of Aleppo, Hama and Dera’a. Every day cluster, barrel or conventional bombs, all kinds of heavy ammo are dropped. Every day the attack of genocidal Russian aviation is suffered by the masses. Every day we have to survive in the midst of misery and food shortages ... especially in besieged Ghouta, where children die of starvation.

This is nothing new, except for one element. **This Geneva conference has resolved that the Syrian revolution must be definitively crushed.** To do this they have to further shield the regime of Bashar and cannot allow any area that this dog does not control in Damascus and its environs. That is the reason for this deception before the press of the last meeting in Geneva: so that al-Assad finishes crushing Ghouta. That is why this area located in the outskirts of Damascus is being surrounded, bombed and massacred without a respite. The surrender and emptying plan is already underway: they sent the

well-known green buses to remove people from that area, so they are sent unarmed to Idlib or Dera'a, while Bashar is let regain territorial control of Ghouta.

At the same time, all FSA generals are in Geneva selling out these rebel areas in negotiations. They are not calling for everybody to break the siege or anything like that. They are part of the Geneva plan. But it remains to be seen if this plan can be imposed on the heroic masses that still resist in the su-

burbs of the capital.

In this plan, Bashar will be "the government of the transition" for as long as it is necessary until they are able to finish completely defeating the revolution and can reestablish their institutions of domination in Syria.

That is why al-Assad is reinforced with Putin's white army, the Iranian fascist guard, Hezbollah, mercenaries from various countries ... while Turkey guarantees with FSA generals under its command the surrender from within

and cooperation for that block to succeed. It is the second part of this sinister Geneva plan, and an essential one. **Presented as representatives (whom nobody voted) of the revolution, the generals of the Sunni bourgeoisie of the FSA stated that "in the Geneva meetings the massacre can be stopped" ... that "they are peace processes" and that with the help of the "International community" al-Assad can be arrested... None of this is true. It is a brutal deception,**

## Al-Assad: A disciple of Zionism in his fascist plan for the occupation of Syria

They go more than 6 and a half years of revolution and counterrevolution in Syria, which was time ago the scene of hundreds and hundreds of thousands of workers mobilizing in the streets to the cry of "the people want the fall of the regime" of the dictator Bashar al-Assad. However, to date, the concentration of the imperialist powers along with their lackeys in the region orchestrating the counterrevolution in Syria have left as a result more than 600,000 massacred, more than 15 million displaced, hundreds of thousands suffering siege by famine, and as we were witnessing, a systematic plan to empty those cities that are not under the control of the regime and its allies. All this shows that the Bashar regime has no social base and that its mere existence in power leads the Syrian masses to continue marching for its fall.

The paradox is that if imperialism decided to remove Bashar, the masses could see it as a triumph of their own and, when returning for their own, they would even question the property of the bourgeoisie as a whole. That is why imperialism backs the regime so it can continue massacring the masses.

The question then is, taking into account that 60% of the Syrian population has been displaced from their homes, who populates the cities that the dog Bashar and his allies have retaken?

To answer it, it is necessary to understand how Bashar's army is composed today. They are mercenaries from Afghanistan, Iraq, Iran and other parts of Asia and Lebanese from Hezbollah, who are promised a plot of land and a house, always at the cost of massacring a Syrian family or outraging it until they can expulse it. They are the ones



who occupy the houses every time rebel cities are evacuated on green buses; so converting these mercenaries into true fascist settlers in the best style of the gendarme Zionist State of Israel, which, with its settlers, systematically steals land and houses from the Palestinian people, confining them to the ghettos and the diaspora.

Syrian refugees today also live in the diaspora and in refugee camps, which are true concentration camps. Al-Assad has already declared that he will not allow those who have not been faithful to the regime to return. That's because, to have stability, their cities can only be populated by people addicted to him ... in no way can he allow the Syrian people to return, because they would start winning the streets again for the fall of the regime. He has already learned his lesson from Homs in 2014, where after taking the city he allowed the refugees and IDP to return and they started new uprisings against the regime.

Al-Assad thus becomes a great disciple of Zionism ... applying its same fascist plan of occupation and usurpation of land of the exploited people of the Middle East.



which has lasted 6 years. The reality has been the permanence of Assad, 600,000 dead, 12 million displaced and rebellious cities sold-out. Now, this is even worse, because they come to consummate the defeat of the revolution.

### **US imperialists, the chiefs of Geneva, settle as victors in a divided and colonized Syria**

The US imperialists are who command and coordinate these counterrevolutionary actions from Geneva. Days before the Sochi conference, Trump met with Putin at the APEC summit. He named him a “great ally to fight terrorism in Syria”. He came out publicly to recognize what Obama was doing in the back rooms: that they are coordinating the counterrevolutionary attacks on the Syrian masses, and sought to reach their final victory before the end of the year. This has not been possible for them yet, but their plan is still running.

The US has already laundered part of their plan: that they have more than 10 military bases and airports in northern Syria, in the Kurdish region known as “Rojava”, thanks to the PKK, which opened its doors. There they have at least 2,000 Marines posted. With their generals directly on the ground, they are the ones who command attacks and massacres against the last trenches of the revolution. They are the ones who are commanding this “transition”.

Moreover, they have already retained territorial control over a large part of Syria, especially in the provinces of Raqqa and Deir-ez-Zor, which are Syrian oil zones. The US has got directly all Syrian oil, while with its superbanks it manages the entire financial circuit of the Middle East.

So, what also distinguishes this conference in Geneva from its antecedents is that after it **the US rises as the great winner of the war in Syria, which has kept all the businesses. Syria is already a colony ... an American protectorate.** None of what the al-Assad government applies is decided by Damascus, but by Geneva, under the US

imperialists’ command.

**The more massacred al-Assad and Putin, the more defeats the masses had and more the US was strengthening its colonization of Syria and its control of its oil wells. Today it is already clear that Putin and Assad are not anti-imperialist champions: they are nothing else but who do the dirty work on behalf of imperialism.** Ultimately, the United States carried out the military plan that the Pentagon had already designed for the Second World War with Hitler: let the latter massacre the Soviet masses as much as possible, but not win the war; the US imperialists are who should get the USSR. Here the plan was to leave al-Assad to slaughter the masses, for which it was necessary to strengthen him with mercenaries, Putin’s army and the Iranian Republican Guard; the USA was to support him from the back rooms (as Obama did) ... but then the US will come in and take everything ... The latter part is what we are seeing: al-Assad massacred and those who keep everything are the US imperialists. When the counterrevolution is imposed, what remains is a nation even more subjected to imperialism.

Today’s Syria has been colonized and its territory divided ... with sectors that under US direct control, while al-Assad stays in Damascus, Turkey is left occupying some of its trade routes and with areas that are still being negotiated among the different wings of the Sunni bourgeoisie. But they are all forces of Geneva ... they all abide by the directions established by the United States.

### **The Geneva conference: a general staff of the counterrevolution for the whole Maghreb and the Middle East**

This is how this counterrevolutionary General Staff meeting in Geneva works, where the Russian, Assad, Iranian, Saudi Arabian, Turkish, and FSA forces are centralized, all under US command. Imperialism had set it up not only against Syria, but against the revolutions that shook the Maghreb

and the Middle East since 2011. There, the plan to crush the revolutions in that entire region is decided, as we can see also in the invasion of Yemen by the Saudi clan and its coalition of 9 US lackeys. Also the recent attack of US imperialism and Zionism on the Palestinian nation declaring Jerusalem the capital of Israel.

Libya was split and the qadafist bourgeoisie returned to deliver oil to the different imperialist gangs and to continue the slave trade business that Qadafy always did in agreement with the EU.

In Tunisia the regime of Ben Ali is perpetuated, with its caste of judges and even with its party in the government. In Egypt, the counterrevolutionary dictatorship of Al Sisi has been imposed, it has even freed Mubarak while imprisoning, condemning in perpetuity and to death the most combative thing left to rise in 2011 in Tahrir Square.

The Geneva conference is a regional conference, but one with global implications, because **on the basis of the defeat of the Middle East revolutions, imperialism will be a thousand times stronger to go on the offensive over the workers of the world.** This offensive has already begun, with the attack on the gains of the working class. The Syrian developments begin to hit the forces of France, Brazil, Argentina, South Africa. Defeating this conference is a task of the world working class. The worse the Syrian masses are, the worse the world working class will be.

### **The counterrevolutionary forces of Geneva are upheld in the actions of the reformist left**

It is necessary to tell the truth. If imperialism could concentrate all its forces to massacre the Syrian revolution it is because it had total impunity to do so. Al-Assad, Putin, the Iranian guard carried out this genocide because someone gave them a free hand. A pro Assad left supported him by saying that he was “anti-imperialist”. They slandered the masses as being either “sent by the

US”, or all “jihadists” and “terrorists”. They made the masses of the world believe that there was no revolution in the Middle East, quite the opposite. They pictured the allies of the exploited in the Maghreb and Middle East as their enemies ... and vice versa, the genocidal Putin and al-Assad, were depicted as their allies. And as we saw, the more the latter imposed themselves, the more Syria remained as a US colony.

But there were other sectors of the left that said they supported the Syrian revolution. They deposited their illusions on and called to trust the generals of the Free Syrian Army. These in turn were the ones who turned over the masses and went to Geneva pretending to discuss an alleged peace process, which in fact is another way of supporting al-Assad.

Some even asked the US to intervene in favor of the masses ... as if the dominant imperialism, the counterrevolutionary force in the world that commands Geneva, could intervene in favor of the revolution.

These currents repeated like the parrots on the shoulders of imperialism, “the conference has failed” ... as if that conference could indeed have stopped al-Assad’s massacre. To create illusions and trust in Geneva (or in any of the forces that are concentrated there), which have kept the dog in Damascus, is also to be part of the support of the counterrevolutionary forces.

The Geneva lefts, whether pro-Assad or pro-FSA, have one thing in common: Islamophobia. They reproduce, as amplifiers, the campaign of the imperialist powers, that the exploited of the Middle East are all “terrorists” and “religious fanatics”. Some “defenders” of the Syrian revolution even went so far as to say that the Syrian revolution was completely defeated by claiming that the only thing left in Syria are al-Assad and the Jihadists, and that they are equally counterrevolutionary.

The Syrian revolution is alive and resists in its last trenches. The pretext to crush it: war on terrorism. Imperialism and its agents have justified the worst counterrevolutionary massacres with the banner of “war on terrorism”. This is how al-Assad and Putin justify



Idlib bombed by Al Assad and Putin

their bombings, and the US sanctifies the destruction of Raqqa or Mosul, the prisons full of political prisoners in Tunisia and Egypt, the massacre in Yemen...

ISIS was the “perfect enemy” that imperialism created... so the former went to control oil wells *manu militari*, imposing a tight control on the masses, and at the same time, imperialism could show it as a group of “super terrorists”, enabling itself and its minions to massacre in Iraq, Syria, Yemen ... But this could not have worked without the reformist left, which argued that ISIS was the number one enemy, silencing the al-Assad massacre and justifying Putin’s air strikes over Syria.

Now, these leftist parties are either openly defending al-Assad, or they are keeping silence about what is happening in Syria today. Some argue that the only progressive left in Syria is the struggle of the Kurdish people, so standing as a tail end of Stalinist PKK, which agreed with al-Assad, broke the front of the revolution, and opened the door to the US imperialists, who are occupying Rojava with their military bases and army.

It is already clear that this left has a stain on its forehead for their betrayal to the Syrian revolution and the entire Maghreb and the Middle East. They supported the counterrevolution. And today they keep a thunderous silence, thus helping imperialism and its agents to finish massacring the last trenches of the revolution.

## We must regroup the Syrian resistance

What all the reformist lefts want to hide is that the revolution is still alive, resisting in its last trenches. Even the exploited in Ghouta do not give up. In Idlib, Dera’a, areas of the provinces of Aleppo and Hama ... the resistance is still standing.

**Stop the massacre of al-Assad and Putin, with the skies and roads liberated by the US and Turkey! Out with all the invading troops of Syria!**

**We must regroup the resistance! We must expel from it any general of the Sunni bourgeoisie who goes to Geneva! Let’s get the coordination committees back with direct democracy! Let’s recover the weapons for the Syrian people! Each person, a rifle!**

**We must expropriate without compensation all the factories, workshops, banks, and recover the oil wells for the people to eat, to recover their houses and put all the economy and resources to expel Bashar and all his allies!**

**Down with the counterrevolutionary pacts of the Geneva, Astana and Sochi conferences of the USA, Russia, Iran, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, al-Assad and the Sunni bourgeoisie of the FSA!**

**For a national council of the Syrian revolution, with elected delegates one every ten thousand workers, poor peasants, from the**

**refugee camps and areas where al-Assad does not control!**

The Palestinian masses have begun an intifada against the Trump-Netanyahu attack of recognizing Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. In Yemen they continue to resist the invasion by Saudi Arabia. It is the same fight against imperialism and its lackeys throughout the region.

**For the destruction of the Zionist-fascist State of Israel! For the defeat of the Saudi invasion of Yemen!**

**Down with the counterrevolutionary dictatorship of Al Sisi in Egypt!**

**All over the Maghreb and the Middle East, the same intifada!**

## **The siege must be broken to the Syrian masses**

The Syrian masses, in their resistance, are giving the world working class time to break through. Without the fight of the workers of the world, the revolution in Syria will end up being defeated. The key is in the hands of the workers of the imperialist countries: the USA, Europe, Japan. They can stop, striking from within, those who organize the counterrevolution in the Middle East and the world and paralyze the war machine.

If imperialism emerges triumphant

in that region, it will make itself felt by making the workers of the world pay for that defeat, by snatching their gains, as we saw earlier.

**Let's break the siege to the Syrian masses!**

**Let's win the streets of the world in defense of the last trenches of the revolution!**

**For an international conference that regroups all the forces that support the Syrian revolution in the world, to unify forces and stop this counterrevolutionary attack!**

*Editorial board of the paper The truth of the Oppressed*

## **From the trenches of the Syrian revolution**

December 29th, 2017

*Report from Idlib*

# **Six martyrs and tens of wounded by the bombing of the planes of the regime in Idlib**

Today, civilians were killed and tens resulted wounded by the bombing of Russian warplanes and planes belonging to the forces of the regime that caused considerable damages to houses and private and public infrastructure in the selected area.

Also, the warplanes bombed hard with missiles that exploded over the city of Maraat al-Nouman, south of Idlib province, which caused the martyrdom of civilians and wounded others, for which the civil defense teams ran to recover the bodies and rescue the wounded, searching through the rubbles.

Yesterday, the number of martyrs in the south and south east of Idlib province was 19, as a result of attacks of warplanes and helicopters, distributed as follows:

3 in the farms of Sid Ali in the town of Al Tamana

2 in the town of Sarman

3 in the farms of Sakyat, close to Al Tamana

4 in the north of the village of Mushirfa

3 in the town of Sihan

2 in the town of Babulin

1 in the town of Badama, volunteer of civil defense

1 from the town of Um Jalal

The campaign of bombings of the planes of the forces of the regime and the Russian planes continues for fifth day in a row, where the warplanes keep on bombing cities and towns of the Idlib province, leaving tens of martyrs and wounded in the middle of international and world silence about the daily massacres, particularly in the "safe zones".

Militarily, the forces of the regime took control of several villages in south east of Idlib province, after violent clashes

with the rebels.

The forces of the regime, backed by foreign and local militias, were able to take control of the villages in al-Tama, al-Djaj, Abu Dali, al Mushirfa, Tel al Moqa, Tel al Ward which is next to Abu Dali, and al Maghra, southeast of the Idlib province, noon Thursday, after violent clashes and intensive airstrikes over that area.

The towns and cities of Idlib province were witness of a ferocious military campaign of the forces of the regime and the militias that support it, with the air support of Russian warplanes, which killed tens of civilians in the last days.

*Abu Hosam  
Correspondent for the socialist  
Syrian paper The Truth of the  
Oppressed*



January 7th

# Second Day of Rage

Propelled from USA by the Anti-war Committees in Solidarity with the Struggle for Self-Determination



## In Buenos Aires

The socialists marched to the Syrian Embassy, in front of fascist Al Assad's thugs



See all speeches on: [www.fti-ci.org](http://www.fti-ci.org)

*As agreed from the Geneva conference between Erdogan, Putin, Al Assad, the Iranian Ayatollahs and Trump  
Turkey invades Afrin*

*After the Kurdish people was used as cannon fodder against the Syrian masses by US imperialism, Russia  
and Al Assad, now they let it go, opening the way for the Turkish army*

*To defeat the invasion:*

**Break the pact between PKK and the Kurdish bourgeoisie with Bashar and USA!**

**The Kurdish people should turn the guns around  
and shoot against Al Assad and USA!**

*Out with the barracks of Bashar and the US bases from northern Syria!*

**Re-establish the front of the Syrian revolution of 2011 between the Kurdish and Syrian  
exploited that fought for the fall of the regime!**

**OUT WITH AL ASSAD!**

**OUT WITH TURKEY, RUSSIA AND ALL THE INVADER TROOPS FROM SYRIA!**

**T**he Turkish army invades Afrin, a Kurdish city inside Syria, a few kilometers away from the Turkish border. The name of the operation is "olive branch". The Turkish tanks and infantry are 5km inside the Syrian territory, with the aim of occupying not only that city but also other cities that are west of the Euphrates river, where the YPG are today. This is an area where oil pipes and trading pass and Turkey wants to control them.

This Turkish advance is made with the green light of Al Assad, Russia, Iran and USA. All of them opened the road for it. Russia withdrew its observers and Al Assad and USA are clearing the area and turning a blind eye. It is an attack on the Kurdish people coordinate from the Geneva conference.

This is the result of the pact that the Stalinist PKK and the Kurdish bourgeoisie made with Al Assad and USA, from which the fate of the Kurdish people was tied to that of their executioners. The YPG remained under the discipline of the Pentagon and integrating the same military front as that of Bashar, the one that massacred the Syrian masses in the rebel



cities, just as it happened in Aleppo, where Afrin was part of the siege and from where the counterrevolutionary troops of Bashar and Russia later entered to take over that city. That's why the YPG were a key element for the fall of Aleppo, the capital city of the resistance. They were the gurdhas of the counterrevolution. And now they are no longer needed so they get rid of them.

Today the Kurdish people is paying the cost of this policy of the PKK. Because no oppressed people who help imperialism and its agents to subjugate another can be liberated. These oppressors do not allow it. That is

why today the US, Russia and Al Assad are clearing the way for Turkey to crush them in Afrin, while in Rojava the US has them directly subordinated to his army and military bases.

The same happened in Iraq, where after using the Kurdish forces as cannon fodder to invade Fallujah and Mosul, the US sent the Iraqi army to occupy the Kurdish area in 48 hours. Imperialism was never going to leave to the Kurdish bourgeoisie the administration of oil business in that area of Iraq (as that bourgeoisie intended), nor the control of the border of Afrin and the passage of oil pipelines.

In 2011, the exploited Kurds rose with all the oppressed Syrians in the great revolution that broke out on March 15th of that year as a link in a single chain of revolutions throughout the Maghreb and the Middle East. They correctly saw in the triumph of that revolution the possibility of conquering their right to self-determination. But their bourgeoisie led them to that infamous pact with Bashar, stating that they would conquer "self-determination" with him. They used that demand to subordinate their own people to its executioners, to negotiate a bigger cut for their pockets.

The entire reformist left of the world, in the name of "supporting the Kurdish people", ended up supporting this pact. They made the Kurdish workers believe that Kurdistan was conquered together with its executioners, like Al Assad, Russia and USA. The same was said to the world working class, while claiming that this was "the only progressive thing in Syria" and that "the enemy was ISIS", hiding and thus supporting the massacre of Bashar to the Syrian masses, imposing a siege to their revolution.

The result is at plain sight, and it is very far from the self-determination of the Kurdish people. Afrin, invaded by Erdogan, which in turn keeps 20 million Kurds under the jackboots of the Turkish NATO armored regime; the Iraqi army occupies the Kurdish zone of that country; the Ayatollahs oppressing 8 million Kurds and the US with two thousand marines and military bases disciplining Rojava, using the YPG as cannon fodder.

They must take responsibility for this tragedy of the Kurdish people, because they subordinated it to their oppressors - who are the ones who are currently supporting the Turkish invasion of Afrin - and they separated it from their allies of the Syrian masses, with whom they must unite to confront Turkey, Bashar and all the counterrevolutionary forces of Geneva.

Therefore, the way out for the Kurdish people, if they want to stop the Turkish invasion, is to re-forge their unity with the Syrian exploited, re-establishing the front of the revolution when it broke out in 2011 fighting

for the fall of the regime. To do this, break with the Kurdish bourgeoisie and the PKK and their pacts with which they subordinated the Kurdish people to the US and Al Assad! They have to turn the guns around and direct the weapons of the YPG against them! The Kurdish people must expel the Assadist forces of Rojava as well as the US army and its military bases! This is the way forward for the Kurdish people to be free, putting Afrin and Rojava on the side of the revolution, confronting Bashar. In this way, they would win the support of the Syrian resistance, which should oppose the Turkish invasion.

Turkey today invades Afrin and is preparing for tomorrow to advance in Idlib. Erdogan is not an ally of the revolution, but just the opposite. It is in a pact with Putin, the Ayatollahs, Bashar and the US from the Geneva conference. From there, he agreed to his "Euphrates Shield" operation at the end of 2016, where he withdrew forces from Aleppo to take them far away to fight "against ISIS", paving the way for Al Assad to take over the city. Turkey never attacked the forces of Bashar or Russia when they invaded Aleppo. He never sent a rifle or a single bullet. On the contrary, he commanded FSA generals to withdraw the masses as they advanced and to hand over their weapons to Bashar when he entered Aleppo. Turkey sold out Aleppo!

Today Turkey is attacking Afrin and is not interested in attacking Bashar or Russia at all, as they are bombing and besieging the province of Idlib and the besieged Ghouta. On the contrary, he is supporting them, as he has been doing for six years at the Geneva conferences.

The last meeting in December 2017 concluded with Al Assad's staying in Damascus so that he may continue to slaughter the Syrian people, as well as the US invasion of Raqa and Deir ez Zor were endorsed. Geneva is a true counter-revolutionary pact where it has been discussed how to end with the Syrian revolution and to partition that bloodied nation, with USA as the winners in the first place, keeping for themselves the oil wealth, with Turkey controlling the borders and passage of trade and oil pipelines, with Russia as a hitman and with a government of the Syrian protectorate commanded by Geneva (commanded by the USA) of a pact between Bashar and the Sunni bourgeoisie.

Down with the Geneva conference! That is the enemy of the Syrians, Turks and Kurds exploited and of the entire Middle East.

Defeat the Turkish invasion of Afrin, a NATO lackey, or else tomorrow they will go for Idlib!

Out with the dog Bashar Al Assad!

Out with Russia, Hezbollah and the Iranian guard! Out with the US marines and their bases from Rojava! Out with all the invader troops of Syria!

For the right to self-determination of the Kurdish people!

Expropriate all the oil companies and oil pipes from Syria without compensation and place them under workers control!

Out with the imperialist oil companies!

If the Syrian resistance supports the Turkish invasion of Afrin it will be sealing its own tragic destiny, like yesterday with the Euphrates Shield. The allies of the oppressed are never the oppressors.





In the refugee camps there are millions of exploited Syrians dying of cold. Recover the houses, expelling Al Assad and all his mercenaries who are usurping them! Organizing the refugee camps in that fight, the resistance will have new forces to defend Idlib and fight in Damascus for breaking the siege of Ghouta.

The Turkish working class, also composed of 20 million Kurds and super-exploited Syrian refugees, is a great ally in this fight, striking from Turkey itself.

The allies for this combat are also the exploited who today are rising in Iran. There, the war cry should be "Out the invader Iranian guard from Syria!" The Kurdish people in Syria must break the military front with the Iranian Ayatollahs, Russia and Bashar now, and join the 8 million Kurds in Iran!

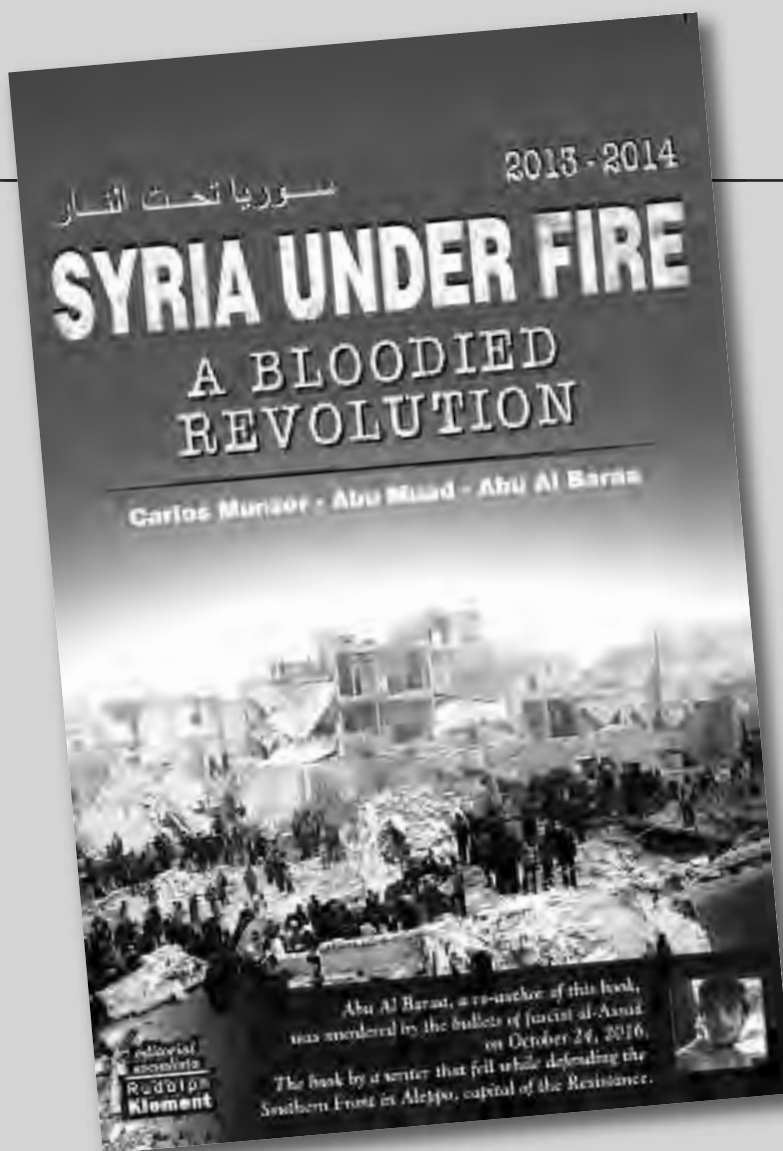
In Tunisia, the exploited revolted for bread again. In Palestine, the people resist the attack of Trump and Netanyahu to declare Jerusalem as the

capital of Zionism. The intifadas in Tunisia, Palestine and Iran have already begun and are the best allies of the Syrian masses!

The Kurdish people must do the same, facing Al Assad, the US protectorate in Iraq, the Iranian theocracy and Erdogan! Only by uniting their ranks with the exploited Syrians, Iranians and Turks, fighting against the governments and regimes of the oppressors, is that the Kurdish people will even be able to conquer their right to self-determination of the entire Kurdistan, that is, in Turkey, Syria, Iraq and Iran.

In the entire Maghreb and Middle East: one single intifada, one single fight against one single enemy!

*Abu Muad  
For the editorial board of the paper  
"The Truth of the Oppressed"*



*editorial  
socialista*  
**Rudolph  
Klement**

Ebook available on:  
[www.editorialsocialistarudolphklement.net](http://www.editorialsocialistarudolphklement.net)

*The spark that lit Maghreb and Middle East turns on once again and says “present”*

## The Tunisian masses return to the fight with revolutionary actions against the plans of IMF and its lackey government



Tunisian rebel youth fight in the streets with barricades

**T**housands of Tunisian came out to the streets to protest against the increase in the cost of living, inflation, unemployment (which reaches 40% in the youth), starvation and against austerity plan that the government set in late December on behalf of the IMF (which claims an increase of VAT and cuts in the budget, due to a loan that Tunisia took in 2016), which caused a hike in food prices.

Since Monday 8th, protests broke out and they were clashes against the police that came out to repress them, causing tens of wounded and over 200 arrested.

The more the security forces repressed, the more the exploited escalated their struggle, blocking the highway, burning tyres, clashing with the police and attacking police stations (such as in Yelma).

The hatred of the masses increased when they heard the news that in Teburba (40km away from the capital city) a 55 years old protestor was killed after being beaten and run over by a security corps truck. Tunisia, the spark that lit the Maghreb and Middle East meadow on fire, was born once again. The youth, leading the exploited, such as in those revolutionary days 7 years ago and in the revolutionary struggles that took place after them for years, came out and said “present”

once again.

The protests expanded throughout the country. It took place in some neighbourhoods of the capital city such as Ettadhamen and Al-Ouardia and from the big cities in Tunisia such as Kasserine, Sidi Bouzid (the town where 2010 revolution broke out when young Mohammed Bouazizi set himself on fire), Gafsa, Gabes, Nabeul, etc. The poor is rising again, returning to the revolutionary struggle for bread, dignity and national independence that the different governments that passed by, UGTT bureaucracy and the World Social Forum with their “radical” spokesperson today turned into “New Left” expropriated from them, deepening misery and adding more chains that bounded the exploited Tunisia to imperialist yoke.

While the dispossessed demand the fall of the economic plan and of the regime of Ben Ali supporter Nida Tunisia (old members of former RCD, the toppled Ben Ali’s party) and the “moderate” islamists Enahda, the bureaucrats of UGTT, those true minister without portfolio of the IMF servant government, advised the government to “increase the minimum wage and the aids to the families for things to calm down”. You traitors! this is how these firemen (which are

paid by the capitalists and support the power of the bourgeoisie, and they were the spoiled child of WSF and the entire reformist left that surrounded to its feet) wanted to turn off the fire of the masses, fueled by years of deception, unfulfilled promises, suffering and oppression.

On the other hand, the liar Hama Hammami, leader of the Popular Front (of PCOT, the Left Workers League and sectors of the Pan Arab bourgeoisie that pose as “progressive”) comes out to denounce the austerity measures, when he had supported for years the fraudulent constituent assembly, they set up the National Salvation Front, that took Nida Tunisia to power and has held for years every democratic deception that moved away the masses from bread and revolution.

However the struggles of the masses are already here. The working class, with the youth as a vanguard, is once again gaining momentum in national political life, with mass actions that has turned into a new revolutionary burst out that shook the country and is making the power of the bourgeoisie tremble.

The “democracy” that emerged in Tunisia as an abortion of the huge struggles that the Tunisian exploited waged on the streets gave nothing to the working class and the poor. It only brought more unemployment, price hikes, increase in the cost of living and inflation, while their own soil is full of wealth (such as oil).

In 2011/2012, the bureaucratic and reformist leaderships, the renegades of Trotskyism, anti-capitalists from around the world, etc. deceived the masses that rose in Maghreb and Middle East. They made them believe that their uprising was to set up a “democracy” against the dictatorships that ruled in those countries. They made them believe that the struggle was to “impose a bourgeois democracy and that by voting the working class would get improvements in their living standards”. Bastards! The working class returns to the revolutionary struggle because it doesn’t stand anymore to live under the same conditions that they lived with the government of the dictator Ben Ali. They rose against the treacherous recipes, nurses of capitalism.



Today’s struggle of the masses and the Tunisian people confronts this type of treasons with which they diverted and expropriated one of the revolutions in the Arab world, while others were slaughtered like in Syria and Yemen. Now, this fight must not stop, let alone when the Iranian masses are entering in maneuvers of revolution against the theocracy of Ayatollahs, they fight in Palestine, the Syrian resistance doesn’t surrender and the Yemeni people still stand.

**Now we must unite the working class (employed and unemployed) and all the masses in struggle.** Bread and decent work for which we fought toppling Ben Ali is not yet in our table and homes, 7 years after. The revolution of workers and peasants that started in 2010 deserves to succeed. The bankers, the capitalists, the transnational companies keep on stealing the wealth of Tunisia and our work.

We have to **defeat the rotten bureaucracy of UGTT** and recover the unions and the struggle organizations of the masses, expelling from them the class-collaborationists to put them as supporting point for the rising of workers and popular councils and thus conquer class independence. We need to provide the revolutionary struggle of the masses with their own power organs. **The picket lines and barricades must remain! The “revolutionary workers and popular councils” have to emerge again! Set up workers militias and rank and file soldier committees to smash the police and the officers caste of the army! Down with the government of Essebsi and Chahed, servants of the imperialist pirates! Conquer the power for the exploited! It is the only one who can bring bread, work, decent houses... expropriating the expropriators of the people, recovering the land and breaking with IMF and the imperialist plunderers!**



*Correspondent for “The Truth of the Oppressed”*



*On the last months of the class struggle in South Africa*

**To generalize again the mass actions and their cry of:**

## **"Zuma must fall!"**

*We need to expel the class-collaborationist leadership of COSATU!*

*For the workers' organizations to break with the bourgeoisie and the ANC reconciliation regime!*

**For a national congress of rank and file delegates from all the workers' and popular organizations in struggle and the committees of rank and file soldiers!**

**From NUMSA and AMCU we must head this call!**

**T**he economic crisis in South Africa deepens more and more. Unemployment rates continue to rise (today is 38%); the famine increases after the devaluation of the Rand, the public health and housing crisis continues growing. The disinvestment in the mines and workplaces causes dozens of daily deaths in the ranks of the employed workers. The foreign debt is already unpayable.

This situation motivated mass actions against the regime of the ANC-SACP. There was no sector of the masses that did not claim for the government to fall. "Zuma must fall!" became the demand that united the whole working class and the masses of the nation. The workers in the streets with their picket lines, their assemblies, their strikes, took up the path traced by the struggle of the workers of Marikana in 2012.

The general strike of October 2017 posed the overthrowing of Zuma and the opening of the revolutionary struggle against the regime of reconciliation and the bourgeois state as the current task. But this general strike was turned into an impotent action regarding the problems that the masses wanted to solve. Because a front of the leadership of COSATU (Confederation of South African Trade Unions that support the government), the SACP (South Africa Communist Party) and the ANC (African National Congress) -that is to say a front emerged from the heart of the regime to which the caste of white of-

ficers of the army of Pretoria belongs, which is also usurper of the mass struggle against Apartheid-diverted the hatred that the masses radiated in the streets against Zuma and led to a demonstration to put pressure on the parliament. They intended that the parliament (where nothing is decided) could "vote the dismissal of the president and the assumption of the vice president - which belongs to the same party of Zuma, the ANC - as head of state."

While this general strike, manipulated by the collaborationist with the black bourgeois leadership of the COSATU, lost all its potential; the leadership of SAFTU (South African Federation of Trade Unions led by NUMSA -metalworker's union- and AMCU -Marikana miners- opposed to the government), which concentrates the most combative sectors of the South African working class that broke with the regime of reconciliation, split in two policies.

On the one hand, the general secretary of SAFTU, Zwelinzima Vavi, has encouraged workers to participate in anti-Zuma marches, but unfortunately having the same policy than the class-collaborationist trade union bureaucracy of COSATU of taking the struggle at the feet of the parliament. Furthermore, in a rally



outside the parliament, Vavisaid: "whether capitalist or worker, we should put aside our differences for the day in support of the MPs inside parliament planning to vote against Zuma"; that is to say a class-collaboration policy that disarms the working class because it subordinates it to its executioners' feet.

On the other hand, another sector of SAFTU leadership refused to intervene in the general strike saying that COSATU requested against Zuma for the assumption of Ramaphosa: the murderer of the workers of Marikana, former manager of Lonmin, vice president of the current government, president of the ANC and mastermind of the new miserable minimum wage.

Unfortunately, this policy of not calling the workers rank and file to take the fight into their own hands, to defy and expel the leadership of the COSATU from the labour movement and to set up their own bodies of direct democracy and self-organization for the political struggle against the government and the starving and murderous regime took away all possibility from the exploited who sought to concretize their cry "Zuma must fall!" by transforming the general strike into a mass revolutionary action that overthrew the

government of the black bourgeoisie, junior partners of Anglo-American in the looting and enslavement of South Africa.

COSATU put a fraction of the working class at the feet of the SACP and the ANC. Zuma did not fall, the bourgeoisie supported him and guaranteed his term until 2019. The ANC with the now "opponent" Ramaphosa prepares a cosmetic change within the same ANC by expelling Zuma from the party, to wash their clothes stained with blood and to be able to assist in replacing Zuma if the masses are again in an offensive position against the reconciliation regime.

Thus the bourgeoisie in the face of mass attacks, prepares an opposition within the ANC itself to deceive the masses with "sweet" and "democratic" phrases, while supporting the government and preparing the officers caste of the army of Pretoria to attack and plunge the working class into a bloodbath when the masses are demobilized.

**Enough of subordinating the organizations of the working class to the bourgeoisie! To deepen the process of breaking the working class with the ANC, we must expel the leadership of the COSATU and unite the ranks of the working class!**

It is necessary today more than ever that from NUMSA and AMCU that have broken with the leadership of the COSATU and lead SAFTU (which represents some 800,000 unionized workers and the most concentrated of the industrial workers) fight in all the establishments and factories to convene a **National Workers Congress** right now, where all the workers (including the COSATU base), the students and all the exploited who seek a path of struggle to defeat the government and the infamous regime are represented with their delegates. A real power body of the exploited must emerge, prepare and organize the overthrowing of the ANC government.

The working class and the exploited must take the resolution of all their problems into their own hands. **We must organize unemployed committees, factory committees and committees of the millions of immigrant workers and centralize them together with the combative**

**student movement and the tenants' committees. We must train the rank and file soldiers committees and the self-defence committees of the workers' organizations in each neighbourhood and locality to defend ourselves against the murderous police and the xenophobic groups that attack the immigrants.**

In South Africa, as in Zimbabwe, years of "democracy" do not come, but the deepening of the political, social and economic crisis, with the ANC imposing a new electoral detour supported by the COSATU to numb the masses and prepare the caste of white officers, to strike and crush them. Traps are coming, including occasional electoral detours to anesthetize the masses and set the stage as in Zimbabwe, that is, the military coups and the bloody repressions they are fighting. For this, imperialism has its 34 military bases on the African continent, led by the Pentagon from the African, of which the Pretoria army is its counterrevolutionary device throughout Southern Africa.

That is why it becomes urgent to call all workers' organizations to break with the bourgeoisie and to call the rank and file soldiers to set up their committees, so that the working class leading the alliance between the oppressed classes, lead the fight against Zuma's government, against all the politicians of the black bourgeoisie and against the imperialist looters, beginning by preparing a true revolutionary general strike. **Down with Zuma! Out with Ramaphosa and the ANC! Down with the officer caste of the Pretoria army!**

**To conquer bread, work, wages, land, housing, cheap loans for the ruined middle classes: expropriation without payment and under workers' control of the transnationals, the Anglo-American, the mines, the land and the banks!**

Only the working class expropriating imperialism and the new black bourgeoisie can guarantee an emergency workers' plan to get the masses out of their suffering, a plan that can be imposed **integrally and effectively under a: Government of the workers' and popular organizations based on their bodies of self-determination and the armament of the masses!**

To do this, the working class must arm itself, set up the Workers' and Popular Councils, the committees of rank and file soldiers, the workers' and popular militias, to expropriate the bourgeoisie and destroy its power.

**For a congress of all the workers' organizations of Southern Africa!**

In order to expel imperialism and recover the land for the workers and the starving masses of the region, we need to unify our struggles, today divided country by country by the agents of the bourgeoisie in our own ranks. We need to regroup our forces and strike together under the demand of nationalize and expropriate without compensation and place under workers' control of all the mining, oil and imperialist transnationals and their banks that plunder the tormented Africa, in order to end the slavery of black Africa. Not a single cent to the IMF. For this we must defeat the black bourgeoisie partner and manager of transnational corporations in the looting of our nations.

From NUMSA, AMCU, the oil workers of Nigeria, the state workers and millions of street vendors in Zimbabwe, we have the strength to make our international unity a reality to fight the same enemies. A call of all the black workers of Africa to our brothers in the USA and Europe, to the Black Lives Matter movement, to the workers who fight for the minimum wage of \$ 15 an hour of work, to the black exploited people organizations that fight for their liberation as nation, to the thousands of black workers who won the streets in Europe against the slavery of our brothers in Libya, would make us unstoppable in our struggle to defeat the imperialist invader and his smaller partners of the black bourgeoisie.

**We must set up this international workers' congress that will be the true national liberation movement that will expel imperialism and liberate our brothers enslaved by the bourgeoisie and the transnational companies!**

**For independent black republics without transnationals, without their counterrevolutionary generals, without imperialist military bases, without black slaveholding bureaucrats and without treacherous union bureaucrats!**

**For the Socialist United States of the Black Republics in Central and Southern Africa!**

*WIL of Zimbabwe*

*Against the slave traders Gadafist bourgeoisie in Libya and the European imperialists...*

**Long live the war cry of black workers in Europe and the United States!**



Europe: Demonstration against the slavery in Libya

**"DOWN WITH SLAVERY!" "FREEDOM TO OUR BROTHERS!"  
"WE ARE NOT GOODS!"**

**T**housands of black and immigrant workers marched on the streets in Europe against the slavery of their brothers in Libya. Through the streets of several states of the USA, London, Brussels, Paris, Berlin, the Spanish State... they mobilized to the embassies of Libya shouting *"Down with slavery!" "Freedom to our brothers!" "We are not goods!"*

Everything started when CNN broadcasted a video of a slave market in Libya. These journalists of the imperialist bourgeoisie, who in a cynical way were "overwhelmed" by "sensitive images", did nothing but revealing the true face of this rotten system that is plunging human civilization into barbarism. The video showed the merchants of the Gadafist bourgeoisie selling slaves for 400 euros, who were described as "big strong boys for farm work".

A market led by European imperialism that holds in concentration camps thousands of immigrant workers fleeing from famine and wars, looking for a better life outside Africa, running the risk of dying in the Mediterranean Sea, or being deported or treated as slaves if they manage to reach land.

While thousands of black workers marched on the streets in Europe and the US, the European and American trade unions did not call for a single action to free the workers in Libya. The currents that speak on behalf of the working class call to humanize this decadent system calling for the *"free movement of goods and people"* (as the English SWP says); *"the suspension of foreign debts of African countries"* (as the LIT); and *"to put an end to Maastricht's anti-immigration policies"*. But they do



not say that this situation is possible because the working class did not take power in Libya for the betrayal of the leaderships of the world working class; and that is why the "40 thieves" of the Gadafist bourgeoisie have returned to do what they always did, now without their "Ali Baba" Muamar, upon whom the masses in their heroic revolution made justice.

*"How is it possible that slavery still exist in one of the richest continents in the world?"* Ask the sinister "journalists" of imperialism. Black workers of Africa will answer you. We have oil, diamonds, uranium, platinum, copper, gold, coltan, zinc, productive lands, but it was stolen at the point of cannons by imperialism and the black bourgeoisies who associated with it and gave our nations and our people as slaves in the 21st century. In today's Africa, the black bourgeoisie in power has imposed the same or worse conditions of slavery on us, after suffering genocides like in DRC, Rwanda and Burundi; the regimes such as the Apartheid of South Africa, etc.. Our previous generations suffered them. They turned us into new slaves, fleeing from the genocides like in DRC-with five million dead-, with entire countries turned into refugee camps, with millions forced into economic exile to be subjugated as in South Africa where immigrant black workers do the worst jobs, being victims of pogroms and endless daily abuses.

If the imperialist bandits can continue treating us like this, it is due to the "liberation movements" like the ZANU and the ZAPU in Zimbabwe; like the ANC in South Africa; like the FRELIMO in Mozambique, MPL in Angola, among others. They - supported by the Communist Party, Stalinism, Maoism and Castroism- prevented the working class from taking power, expelling imperialism and setting up black workers and peasants' republics by expropriating the bourgeoisie. It was this that allowed the "balkanization" of our people, the emergence and enrichment of a billionaire black bourgeoisie associated with the imperialist looters and the scourge, pain, hunger, epidemics, massacres... and hell over the true owners of Africa: the workers, peasants and the exploited who for centuries were kidnapped by the white in-



vaders and taken as slaves to build the great cities that today everyone knows and that the bourgeois enjoy over the martyrdom of our muscles and bones and the shedding of our blood.

We must organize a decisive battle against the Gadafist bourgeoisie, dogs like Al Assad in Syria, murderers of their own people and against these imperialist pirates who are making workers pay for their crisis in the world. **Enough with Gadafist bourgeois in Libya and governments of the black bourgeoisie in central and southern Africa! Enough wit Trump and imperialist butchers! Down with the European Union of the imperialist powers, its euro, governments and monarchies! Down with the V French Republic, the monarchies of the Bourbons and the English pirates! No more assassins like Assad, Putin and the Hezbollah mercenaries! Down with the fascist state of Israel, killer of the Palestinian people!**

The world proletariat must stand up right now. They must fight against any anti-immigrant law. The European and North American working class have in their hands the task of unifying the ranks of all the exploited. The leaderships submitted to capital prevent a concentration of the forces of the exploited of the world. **Work for all, to equal work, equal pay for the native and immigrant working class! Sliding scale of wages and hours of work! All available hands to produce!**

**This will only be possible with the expropriation without payment and under workers control of the imperialist companies!**

**Stop the persecution of immigrant workers! Freedom to imprisoned immigrant workers! Down with the imperialist butchers who repress and take thousands of immigrant workers to concentration camps!**

**One class, one fight against multinational companies and parasitic financial capital!**

**For the working class to live, imperialism must die!**

*Workers International League  
of Zimbabwe*



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Editorial of the paper "Democracia Obrera" (Worker's Democracy) N°91 from LOI-CI of Argentina

## DECEMBER 14, 18 y 19, 2017: THE ARGENTINEAN WORKING CLASS BEGAN TO FIGHT AS IN 2001...

# AN "INTIFADA" THAT MADE TREMBLE THE ARGENTINA OF THE ABOVE

On December 18 and 19, Buenos Aires was the scene of a **formidable mass political struggle** against the pension reform of the IMF and the government of the CEOs. The working class collided head-on with the parliament, the repressive forces of the State and the set of institutions of the arch-reactionary and Bonapartist Constitution of 1853-1994, facing the plan of imperialist looting of the nation imposed by the G-20.

On Monday 18, the **working class staged a revolutionary general strike with pickets and barricades, a national strike imposed from below on the triumvirate of the CGT**, which had agreed on the labor reform of the government and imperialism. **Tens of thousands of workers and young people surrounded the Parliament and unleashed their anger in a veritable "Intifada"**. At night, the impoverished middle classes, outraged by the repression and the government measures, went out to make **cacerolazos** (pan pounding) in Buenos Aires City and the main cities of the country until the wee hours of Tuesday morning.

This irruption of the exploited brought 2001 to the Argentina ruling classes' memory. The CEOs, the big banks, the oligarchy of the Rural Society, did not expect such a response.

The workers broke any union bureaucracy policy of conciliation and submission to the bourgeoisie. With their actions, they divided the middle classes, whose lower layers, encouraged by the struggle of the working class, spontaneously took to the streets. Chants of "*Unity of the workers!*" and "*Macri, motherfucker, go out!*" were combined with the



Europe: Demonstration against the slavery in Libya

"*Que se vayan todos*" ("All of them must go out forever!"), the class independence cry of the 2001 revolution, which for years the reformist leaders of the labor movement had kept well buried and on Dec 18 was heard again in the streets.

This shows that a **prerevolutionary situation** is opening in Argentina. The working class has made the bourgeoisie tremble again. But this combat is not coming from the blue. It is part of huge mass revolutionary responses worldwide against the hard blows that imperialism, under the command of Trump, is unloading on the exploited.

The Argentine working class not only joins the struggle of their class brothers from Venezuela, Brazil, Peru and Honduras against the Wall Street plans on Latin America, but also the Palestinian intifada, the uprising of the exploited of Iran against the ayatollah billionaires and the Tunisian masses who take up the revolutionary path facing the bourgeois power.

Although the FIT and the rest of the Argentine left want

to hide this character of the revolutionary days of 18 and 19, the truth is that these were enormous actions that **the workers and exploited must deepen, without stopping for a second in their combat, to prepare a true "hell" to defeat the Macri government and its reform plan; a "hell" like the one that made the working class and working youth of Germany and all of Europe against the G-20 in Hamburg last year.**

***the government, encouraged by a series of reactionary triumphs, collided head on with a huge mass response***

The Argentine bourgeoisie had arrived emboldened to December 2017. Trump's and US imperialism offensive on Latin America and the world pushed the servile regimes and governments to launch very hard attacks on the exploited, such as the plans of "labor reforms" dictated by the G-20 that are being applied in France, Brazil, Peru and Argentina.

Since the beginning of 2017, Macri was imposing this labor flexibility, not only liquidating the collective bargaining agreement of the oil workers, in the dairy industry, in metalworking, etc. -in agreement with the union bureaucracy of Pereyra and Ávila and the Kirchnerite bureaucrats of ATILRA (dairy workers union) and SMATA (autoworkers)-, but in the whole of the working class: 80% of the non registered workers earn less than \$ 10,000 (USD 500) monthly, while the average of the registered workers earn only \$ 17,000 (USD 850) monthly (according to state statistics office INDEC data).

In turn, the anti-bureaucratic rebellion opened on March 7 - when the labor base of the unions controlled by the Peronist bureaucracy stoned the triumvirate of the CGT and took the box from it- had suffered severe setbacks with the workers' defeats in AGR, the Unionized transit workers of Córdoba, Pepsico, teachers, etc., which thanks to the betrayal of the union bureaucracy, took the vanguard out of the scene and subjected the working class to the electoral farce of August and October. The FIT, with its electoral politics and its parliamentary cretinism, had played a fundamental role in this.

While the struggles of the working class were defeated one by one, the Macri government advanced in the Bonapartization of the regime by perfecting the repressive apparatus for the oncoming battles. The armed bands of the State assassinated Santiago Maldonado and Rafael Nahuel at the request of the Rural Society, Benetton and the oil companies in Patagonia. The South Command of the Pentagon took the bases of the Argentine Navy under the pretext of the disappearance of the ARA San Juan submarine.

In these conditions, after obtaining an enormous reactionary triumph in the legislative elections and supported



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by a pact with the governors of the Justicialist Party and the Kirchnerites and with the triumvirate of the central union bureaucracy, the government launched a brutal (labor, tax and social security) **reform plan** pushed by the **G-20** and the **IMF**. Its objective is to bring the working class to the conditions of exploitation of the nineteenth century, loot the pension funds and deepen the theft of the nation. To prevent the economic crash from exploding, the government has borrowed heavily in dollars indebting Argentina to maintain a fictitious cycle of consumption for the rich middle classes. And this has to be paid for by the masses. The bosses must defeat the workers' movement and deprive large sectors of the middle classes, their own social base, of their income with devaluation, skyrocketing prices of basic services and a hellish difficulty for the workers to make ends meet that does not give peace.

In December Macri felt victorious and attacked harshly. He thought he had won the battle beforehand. But on 18 and 19, the exploiters came face to face with a huge response from the working class and the lower layers of the middle classes that they were not expecting: **two huge days of political struggle with revolutionary methods** that hit the government and radically changed the situation.

***The working class gives a huge blow to the government with a general political strike, pickets and revolutionary combat***

The actions of December 18 and 19 against the pension reform were true **independent actions of the masses** that broke all the containment dams and **were not prepared or called by any union or party.**

The advance of 18 was the clashes on Thursday 14. That Thursday about 200 thousand exploited were concentrated in front of the Congress of the Nation, with strikes by trade and pickets. In the face of government repression, the workers confronted the Gendarmerie and succeeded in imposing the suspension of the Congress session, which was post-



poned until Monday, October 18. The brutal repression with rubber bullets and grenades to workers and retirees, the more than 40 detained, the provocative scene of the quorum attempt using a "fake deputy" to complete the number, etc., were seen by TV all over the country and aroused the indignation of the exploited.

That is why on Monday, Dec 18 the mood was different. There was hatred, anger, desire for revenge. The rebellion against the union bureaucracy of March 7 was resumed and taken to a higher level. The **workers' rank and file** of the metal, state, Astillero Rio Santiago, telephone, etc. workers **imposed a general strike on the triumvirate of the CGT**, which was forced to announce it at 10 am to avoid being thrown down, showing that **the union bureaucracy had lost control of the labor movement**. The transport workers guaranteed to take the workers to the Plaza, which began to arrive from the morning despite the fact that the triumvirate of the CGT had announced that it was not going to mobilize. By noon there were 300,000 workers, retired workers, students, exploited, etc. in front of Congress.

While the triumvirate of the CGT disappeared from the scene, the "opposition" bureaucrats Moyano and Palazzo, who did not know how to deactivate the bomb, begged the employers' deputies to vote against the reform. In the parliament, the Kirchnerite deputies, who had agreed everything with the government, gave a quorum allowing to vote for the looting of the pension fund. The FIT, for its part, validated this session with the presence of its deputies.

But that day the workers, against the policy of all their leaders, no longer wanted to pressure any politician. **They knew that to defeat the pension reform it was necessary to defeat the government**, collide with the "democracy" of the oligarchy and Wall Street and enter into an **open political struggle**. That is why, after noon, the repressed hatred broke out and the workers of the Rio Santiago Shipyard, the metallurgists of the UOM (Metalworkers Union) of Quilmes, the movements of the unemployed, the base of the leftist parties, etc. began clashing with the police, which after 4 hours of fighting had to retreat momentarily under a shower of stones.

The bourgeoisie was divided around how to contain the masses. Frightened, the Kirchnerite deputies warned the ruling party "remember December 19 and 20, 2001!". For that Monday 18, the government had even defined a more defensive policy than that of Thursday 14, hiding the hated gendarmerie and putting a smaller number of police. He knew that, under the conditions of Monday, a hard crash like that on Thursday could end with dead and open a real civil war, with workers even being able to disarm the Gendarmerie.



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But while the bourgeoisie had prepared itself to the millimeter, **no workers' union or party had prepared the workers for the political struggle on Monday**. Nobody had called to organize a political struggle in the streets, or to put in place the necessary organization for that combat. No one had called to throw down the triumvirate of the CGT. No one had organized unified self-defense committees. The "opposition" bureaucracy sought to control the workers' rank and file and take it to the feet of the bourgeoisie and the parliament. The program of the FIT, opposed in 180° to the mass action on Dec 18, had been to "put more deputies of left in the Congress", editing bills, pushing "do not buy Lays potatoes" campaigns, festivals.

The workers and combative youth outdid their leaderships, and rammed. Even in the worst conditions, and already in the combat, having 60 detainees and dozens of wounded, they improvised their self-defense and sent 88 policemen to the hospital.

Finally, the police managed to retake the square with a brutal repression. At dusk, when the day seemed to have ended, large sections of the middle classes, impacted by the workers' fight in front of the Congress (who even aided them giving them water and shelter in their buildings before the brutal repression), took to the streets to make "cacerolazos" (pan pounding) as in 2001. At night, more than 20 thousand people gathered in front of the Congress after midnight. 10 thousand people protested in front of the presidential residence. In some neighborhoods there was looting, attacking the property of supermarkets and distribution trucks. This scene was repeated in Rosario, Córdoba and other big urban centers of the country. The task was posed to weld the worker and popular alliance in the streets as in 2001. The general strike, even with the limits imposed by the leaderships, had already become **a general, political, revolutionary strike, an independent mass action** that dragged large layers of the exploited to a fight against the government, breaking the frames of professions and unions and unifying the different sectors of the working class. It

was the first decisive political blow given to a government and the regime since 2001.

This mass action **changed the relationship of forces between the classes in Argentina**. What really stood out is **who commands in the country**: whether imperialism and its lackeys of the native bourgeoisie, or the proletariat. As Trotsky said about the France of the 1930s: *"Whatever the slogans and the reason why the general strike has arisen, if it really embraces the masses and if these masses are determined to fight, the general strike inevitably raises before all the classes of the nation the question: who is going to be the owner of the house?"* (L.T., "Whither France?", our translation). This is what happened on December 18 and 19.

***In 18 and 19 we could not defeat macri because he was supported by a covenant with the justicialist (peronist) party, the kirchnerites, the frente renovador of massa, and the union bureaucracy***

Unlike December 2001, when the bourgeois regime was corroded, in December 2017 the working class faced a **regime and government that were stronger than the Alliance's** (in 2001). The bourgeoisie learned from 2001: it reconstituted its party regime and shielded its "democracy" with **600 thousand armed** men of the different police, Gendarmerie, Coastal Guard, Airport Security Police (PSA), Federal Police (PFA), etc. commanded by the government and the caste of judges, who have behind them the Pentagon, the CIA and the MOSSAD. The "house prison" to Etchecolatz and the promotion of the gendarme Echazú (killer of Maldonado) were an award for these murderers and a provocation for the people.

Second, Macri conquered, unlike De la Rúa, an anti-worker and reactionary social base in the rich middle classes that demand worker slavery to be imposed by blood and fire so that the merry-go-round of consumption and the financial "carry-trade" are not cut off.

But the government has another support: **a Bonapartist pact with the PJ governors and the Kirchnerites which also includes the CGT bureaucracy and the state-ized trade unions**. It is an extra-parliamentary co-government pact that the national Executive Power has sealed during and after the legislative elections with the Provincial Executives behind the back of the people, such a Bonapartist agreement that it is not even contemplated in the Argentine arch-reactionary Constitution. This shows that the pension reform did not depend on the vote in Parliament, as it had been fully agreed in advance in the backstage. So much so that even Macri threatened to enact it by decree if the Congress could not sanction it.

This pact was expressed in Parliament on Dec 18. The government not only had a secure majority in the Chamber of Deputies to approve the pension law, guaranteed by the

PJ, but also had the Frente Renovador and above all the Kirchnerites, who were responsible for giving quorum so the Chamber could meet. It was a real parliamentary circus to deceive the masses with the K parliamentarians posing as "opposition", when they had already voted in favor of the pension reform in the Senate.

The Kirchnerite governors (those of Santa Cruz and Tierra del Fuego provinces) signed the Fiscal Pact to the government and apply the same IMF plans with the help of live bullets as Macri does (and yesterday Cristina did). The Ks are guaranteeing Macri's governability from the first day he took office, including voting all his anti-worker laws in parliament. The Pension Reform was no exception. But the great role of the Kirchnerites was not only this; from the "opposition" trade union bureaucracy of Palazzo and the two CTAs, they sought to subject the exploited at the feet of parliamentarians and this armored "democracy" of the Constitution of 1853-1994; although they did not succeed on 12/18, when the masses broke with this policy.

### ***The subordination of the FIT to the parliament amidst the combats of the Plaza del Congreso***

At no time did the FIT or the rest of the currents of the Argentine left prepare the vanguard for a political struggle that day, which was the most formidable combat of class independence since 2001.

They did not call for the establishment of any body of direct democracy or common self-defense of trade unions, piquetero movements or left-wing parties. Nor did they pose the physical struggle in the streets against the triumvirate of the CGT, or organize a march to the unions to drive out the hated bureaucracy - which they continue to support.

Their policy of "putting left deputies in the Congress" and organizing "non confrontational strikes" had disorganized the vanguard throughout the previous period. And during the days of Dec 14 and 18, they promoted openly a policy of class collaboration, subordinating themselves to the bourgeois pact that imposed the pension reform.

The FIT leadership called to pressure the "opposition" deputies to vote against the law. They sowed confidence in the bosses' parties when they knew perfectly well that the Kirchnerites had agreed over everything with Macri, that the government already had a parliamentary majority, that the law was going to be voted and that the session was a circus validated by all the employers' parties. But instead of denouncing this pact, the FIT concealed it from the workers, telling them together with the Kirchnerites, that the struggle was to get the PJ, Frente Renovador, etc., deputies to vote against the reform. That is to say, **they said that the reform could be defeated in that den of bandits of the Parliament, within the framework of the institutions of the Constitution of 1853-1994**.

This policy was clearly seen in the "Open Letter" of Del Caño and Seligra to the employers' deputies: *"we urge the deputies that are not willing to contribute with the greater*



*impoverishment of our retirees, not to follow the 'block disciplines' and instead, join in the rejection of this nefarious Law. Nothing and nobody can force you to carry out this 'ungrateful task' ("Open letter to the rest of the deputies", La Izquierda Diario, December 4).*

On Monday, the FIT deputies attended the session and legitimized it, while the masses were fighting in the streets against the police. That day, the duty of Del Caño, Del Pla, Seligra, etc., was -as the Third International Revolution affirmed that the parliamentary workers should act- to be at the forefront of the workers' combat, and if there were detainees, to be detained with them.

This would be as if a worker delegate in a factory finds out, while at a negotiation table with the employers, that the police are repressing his comrades on the front yard of the plant and nonetheless he continues to sit down negotiating as if nothing has happened. A delegate who really represents the workers would break the negotiation with the employers and would go out to fight and resist together with his comrades.

But this was not the attitude of the "worker deputies". (FIT deputies) Del Caño and Del Pla remained in the parliamentary session to demand a "popular consultation" (contemplated by the bourgeois Constitution) against the pension reform. The FIT opposed to a direct attack by the G-20 and the IMF, the proposition to bring the masses to decide with a ballot whether the retirees have to lose Ar. pesos 540 (USD 27) a month with the law of Macri or are to continue starving with the Ar. pesos 7,500 (USD 375) a month given by Cristina Kirchner, as if the workers had not more than pronounced themselves in their magnificent political struggle in the streets!

Not only they were kilometers behind the battles of the masses, but with the plebiscite that they proclaimed they liquidated the fight for 82% mobile (the demand for the retirees to receive a monthly wage an 82% of the active workers wages and not of the minimum wage as the government says, NT), which is the program that must be imposed to win a dignified retirement for workers.

After the days of December, which as is more than clear, were in spite and against the policy of the FIT and other left-ist groups, the reformist currents have dedicated themselves to talking about them and acting as if nothing had happened. The PTS, already uncontrolled, has written that there was "a confrontation with stones with the Police" that could not "defeat this paquetazo (packet of evil measures, NT)". **The FIT leaders keep concealing the true character of these revolutionary days**, so that the masses do not conclude that



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**they gave a hard blow to the government and that there are more than enough conditions to organize a superior fight to defeat Macri and his reforms.**

That is why, after Dec 18, the FIT deputies used their parliamentary rostrum not to vindicate the struggle of the masses and call for deepening, developing and extending it, but to reprimand the workers of the Provincia Bank for having insulted Lousteau (former ambassador in the USA and former president of that bank) and cowardly excuse themselves before the bourgeoisie, as Del Caño did when affirming "*we do not support what happened to (National) Deputy Lousteau*".

Meanwhile, these currents - like the PO - invent the fable that the judges of the bourgeoisie can be "impartial" when it comes to judging the militants and activists of the working class, who are actually being brutally persecuted and imprisoned by the bourgeois state.

The FIT wants to make **the "democracy" of the exploiters more "generous"** with reforms to the regime of the Constitution of 1853-1994, Greek Syriza-style, or as Podemos of the Spanish State and other liars of the New Left. That is why they say, as the PTS does, that on Dec 18 there was a confrontation between "republic" and "democracy", trying to hide that we are facing a real war of class against class, of the oppressed against the oppressors.

Today it is more than clear that the masses in their spontaneity had a million times more insight and class instinct than the entire direction of the FIT. The working class and the exploited, in a matter of hours, demonstrated the course to follow to defeat the attack of Macri and the IMF against all the impotent recipes of the reformist staffs of the Argentine left that are in London with the SWP English or hanging on the skirts of the Spanish Bourbons like Podemos.

Against the preachers of the struggle for a "real democracy", we Trotskyists affirm that in capitalism the only pos-



sible democracy for the workers is that of their own self-termination organizations, that of their self-defense against the fire-weapons of the murderous police; their defense of "democratic liberties" with their own methods of revolutionary struggle. Therefore, the road to conquer this "generous democracy" is the one that we must open now, which is the one that was proposed on December 20, 2001: to put on foot the power of the exploited to demolish the regime and its institutions, and take the power.

### ***The war between classes is sharpening: the government, wounded, intensifies its attack the workers respond to the offensive of the capitalists***

*The working class leaders pour water over the December 18 fire*

A phase of mass political struggle has been opened against the Macri government, which puts the entire bourgeoisie on alert, including the Kirchnerites. The government has been wounded. Broad layers of the working class and a fringe of the middle classes have already broken with the government.

The working class has put itself in a position of counter-offensive. Macri has to push it back and kneel it down if he does not want to end up like De la Rúa. The situation is polarized to an extreme degree and the class war does not give peace. It is an Argentina that has nothing to do with the world of "peace and democracy" painted by the FIT.

After the fighting of Dec 18 and 19, the working class has entered a state of **rebellion against the government and disrespect to the bureaucracy**. Here and there it responds to the dismissals with takeovers of factories like the metallurgists of Stockl, Rapi Estant and Envases del Plata; by thousands, the state workers occupy municipalities and public dependencies; with pickets and roadblocks such as

the oil workers of Santa Cruz; with puebladas (popular uprisings) like in Azul.

The workers know that they are no longer alone. The **lower middle classes** are in solidarity with these struggles and seek a leadership against the attack of the government and the IMF, a question that poses the necessity of welding the **workers' and popular alliance**.

In this scenario, the government is deepening its attack. A brutal devaluation pushes inflation upward. Newly increased fees and prices of basic services were announced. Layoffs in the state offices and enterprises, dozens of factories and also among oil workers.

The Fiscal Pact with the governors and the 2018 budget meant a brutal offensive on the state workers, with dismissals and job flexibility to guarantee the payment of the external debt.

The repression has been redoubled with the imprisonment of Arakaki and Ponce and the arrest warrant of Romero, while Facundo Jones Huala, the anarchists Diego and Pablo and the comrades detained on December 14 remain in prison. In Jujuy province the authorities unleashed a brutal repression with the arrest of the workers of the La Esperanza sugar mill. On Thursday 12/29 state workers, teachers and retirees in Rio Gallegos, Santa Cruz province were brutally repressed by the government of Alicia Kirchner. In Tierra del Fuego, Kirchnerite governor Bertone froze state workers' salaries.

On Dec 27 at the COFCO oil mill (ex-Nidera), a fire caused by the negligence and thirst for profit of the employers' claimed the lives of two workers and more than 20 injured. The response of the workers was a national oil-mill strike in mourning, as it had not been seen for years.

The state workers made a national strike against dismissals and multiplied the occupation of municipalities and dependencies in Quilmes, La Plata, etc. In Azul, there was a pueblada in solidarity with the dismissals in Fabricaciones

Militares and pickets are presently made on Route 3. In Mar del Plata 10 thousand people were mobilized against murderer Etchecolatz's "house arrest" in that city. The oil workers of Santa Cruz were on strike against the dismissals. In the Great Buenos Aires, the metallurgists of Stockl, Rapi Estant and other factories are facing layoffs by taking the plants. Chicken processor Cresta Roja has been on strike.

But while the class war is turning red-white, the leadership of the working class tries to disorganize everything the base conquers. The triumvirate of the CGT supports Macri and has agreed to the labor reform with (Labor Minister) Triacca.



Meanwhile, the “piquetera” bureaucracy keeps the unemployed and sub-employed workers of the cooperatives, subject to the misery crumbs of the Ministry of Social Action and the state.

The FIT, which directs a minority but combative sector of the working class, has refused to call for the establishment of a Coordinating Committee or the conquest of a National Workers' Congress to face the brutal flexibilization that has already been imposed on the working class, when the only way to defeat it is to prepare a superior fight for this time to give Macri the decisive blow he deserves.

### **THEY DESERVE HELL!**

**WE HAVE TO PREPARE A NEW, TRIUMPHANT 2001!**

**IT IS NECESSARY TO UNITE THOSE WHO ARE FIGHTING! NATIONAL COMMAND OF STRUGGLE! PICKETS, ASSEMBLIES AND GENERAL STRIKE UNTIL ALL OF THE EXPLOITERS AND THEIR POLITICIANS ARE LEAVING AND NOT EVEN ONE REMAINS!**

**OUT WITH MACRI AND THE REGIME OF THE PJ, THE KIRCHNERITES, THE BOSSES' POLITICIANS AND THE JUDGES, AGENTS OF IMPERIALISM! DOWN WITH THE TRIUNVIRATE OF THE CGT!**

To defeat the reforms of the IMF and the Macri and bosses' attack, the working class must defeat the government and its pact with the PJ, the Kirchnerites and the trade union bureaucracy. The fight is already on the streets. But it will not be peaceful. The capitalists have been armed with 600,000 armed men. It will be necessary to **fight higher than in 2001**, putting in place the organizations where the working class and the exploited in struggle weld their unity and decide their future. It is about preparing the actions capable of defeating the government and the regime, and the organizations capable of opening the struggle for power. The programs of the Argentine left are far from responding to these tasks of

the working class.

The road is that shown by the working class and the exploited of **Iran and Tunisia**, who won the streets against the government and the regime, carrying out enormous revolutionary actions. To put down the reforms of imperialism in Argentina, Macri has to end as (ousted former president, NT) De la Rúa. As the workers shout: **Macri, Go Out!**

We have to climb a new step in our battle: **we must prepare a centralized revolutionary action to defeat the government and the bourgeois power.** That is, we must organize **the revolutionary general strike**, a combat superior to the one of 12/18, organized and centralized, until Macri leaves and we defeat the regime of the Constitution of 1853/1994, of the bosses' parties and the videlista-peronista-radical caste of judges, all agents of the IMF and imperialism.

We have to prepare a new victorious 2001 so that everyone of the exploiters and their politicians leaves for good and not a single one remains!

Let's open the way to the **puebladas**, the **pickets** and the **factory takeovers**! They must go on!

For this, the first task is to defeat the union bureaucracy. **Down with the (CGT Central Union leading) triumvirate and businessman Calo (The sellout that is head of the metalworkers union, NT)!**

The unions are the workers', not the government or the IMF's organizations. Rank and file assemblies in each factory and establishment to repeal these traitors! We have to take the CGT and throw the bureaucrats out of the windows!

In order to advance along this path, it is necessary to put on foot the organizations of the working class and the exploited that are capable of deepening the political struggle that has been opened. As Trotsky affirmed in France in 1936, *"The organization cannot coincide anymore with the unions, because the unions only cover a significant part of the class and are subject to an arch-reactionary bureaucracy. The new organization must respond to the nature of the movement itself, reflect the struggling masses, express their firmest will. It is a direct government of the revolutionary class. There is no need to invent new forms here: there are historical precedents. The workshops and the factories choose their deputies, who meet to elaborate the plans of the struggle in common and to direct it. It is not even necessary to invent the name of such organization: they are the soviets of worker deputies."* (L.T., op.cit., our translation)

That is to say, the self-determination, direct democracy and coordina-



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tion organizations of all the workers and exploited who fought on Dec 18 and 19 must be built, above the divisions imposed by the unions. **The Factory and Company Committees** must be set up to unite the forces of registered, black-economy, full-time, part-time, temporary, outsourced, native, immigrants, laid-off and unemployed workers! We have to put the zonal **co-ordinators** back on their feet! For Committees of retired workers!

Let the **revolutionary piquetero movement** of 2001 return! Down with the union bureaucracy!

Let the **Popular Assemblies** return!

The Argentine left, again at 180° of the tasks of the working class, does not propose any course of immediate action. It seems that for them it is necessary to wait until the parliamentary sessions are resumed in March and the labor reform is debated. No! The combat is now! **We have to unite those who are fighting!** We must set up a true **National Struggle Command of all workers' organizations and sectors that are facing the attack of the government** as the workers of Stockl, Rapi Estant, Envases del Plata, Cresta Roja, UOM de Quilmes, Astillero Río Santiago, Oil Mill workers, oil workers of Santa Cruz, the print workers of Morvillo, the workers of Ingenio (sugar mill) La Esperanza, the state workers all across the country, the dismissed in Fabricaciones Militares state factories and all the rebellious people of Azul city! They have all the authority to call to put it on its feet right now to defeat labor flexibilization, stop the dismissals and conquer our just demands for better wages, jobs and decent pensions, against imperialism and the slave-owner bosses.

The workers' organizations taken from the bureaucracy like SUTNA (tires workers union), Rail workers union Local Haedo, BusLine 60, the SUTEBa (teachers union) locals in the hands of the opposition to the bureaucracy, together with the militant student federations and centers (student unions) must put themselves at the service of this fight!

The Moyanos, the Palazzos and the leaders of the two CTAs ("opposition" central unions) say they are of the opposition but they still do not call the sectors they lead to win the streets to defeat the attack and the labor flexibilization of the government and the bosses. If they are really against the anti-worker reforms, then, break with the PJ, the Frente Renovador of Massa and the Kirchnerites and call this National Struggle Command to organize the General Strike!

The FIT cannot continue to subject the workers' vanguard to the capitalist Parliament. They should break with that notary of Wall Street that is the Congress and put their forces at the disposal of this perspective.

This is the way to conquer a National Worker Congress, that is, the **III National Piquetero Assembly** with rank and



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file delegates of the employed and unemployed workers. Let's make reality the cry of "*unity of the workers, and who does not like it, is screwed*"!

In order to face the repression of the state, **a unified self-defense committee of workers' organizations** must be formed. Enough of comrades wounded and killed! Dissolution of the police, the gendarmerie and all the repressive apparatus! Dissolution of the videlista-peronista-radical judge caste!

Freedom to all the prisoners for fighting! Labor and popular tribunals to judge and punish all the assassins of Santiago, Rafael and all the dead comrades!

We must re-forge the **worker and popular alliance!** As we shouted in 2001: "*Piquete y cacerola (workers' pickets and middle class pan pounding, NT), the fight is one!*". For this the working class must lead the impoverished middle classes that are being attacked by the government of the CEOs, with an anti-imperialist program that attacks the property of the capitalists.

The future of the working class and the exploited masses cannot remain in the hands of the capitalists and their politicians. Enough of this democracy for the rich! The workers must prepare the struggle to seize power and establish a **workers' and people's government, based on the direct democracy and armed organizations of the exploited**, on the ruins of this oligarchic regime of the Constitution of 1853-1994. Open the way to the revolution of the working class and the exploited!

**British pirates, out of the Malvinas! US imperialists, out of Latin America!**

**ARGENTINA WILL BE SOCIALIST OR IT WILL BE A WALL STREET'S COLONY!**

*Editorial Board  
Democracia Obrera N° 91*



After the rise and the huge struggles of 2009

## NEW REVOLUTIONARY UPRISING OF THE IRANIAN MASSES



In one of the main oil exporters of the world, fuel prices increased 50% and food prices 40% in 2017. So the war cry in the streets in Iran is...

**“The people live as beggars  
while the clerics live as kings!”**



For the fall of the theocratic regime of the Ayatollahs and its counterrevolutionary Islamic guard of millionaire generals, all of them servants yesterday of Obama, today of Trump, and, as always, of the imperialist Maastricht!

Down with the anti-worker government of Rouhani!  
Down with Khamenei, the “supreme leader” of the Iranian autocracy!

*With the blockade imposed by USA by years on the Iranian nation, the people starved and only the theocracy and the capitalists got rich, as it has already been proven.*

**Imperialist hands off! It besieges and plunders Iran and the whole Middle East!**

*Open the road to the Shora, the workers, peasants and rank and file soldier councils, as the one the masses created in their 80's revolution against the Sha Reza Pahlevi!*

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## Argentina

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**An “intifada” that made  
tremble the Argentina  
of the above**

